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FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

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OF THE

Department of State Fire Marshal

From the Date of Its Organization  
Sept. 1, 1911, to Dec. 31, 1911

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THOMAS J. AHEARN

State Fire Marshal

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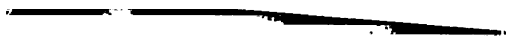
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ALBANY

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**FIRST ANNUAL REPORT**

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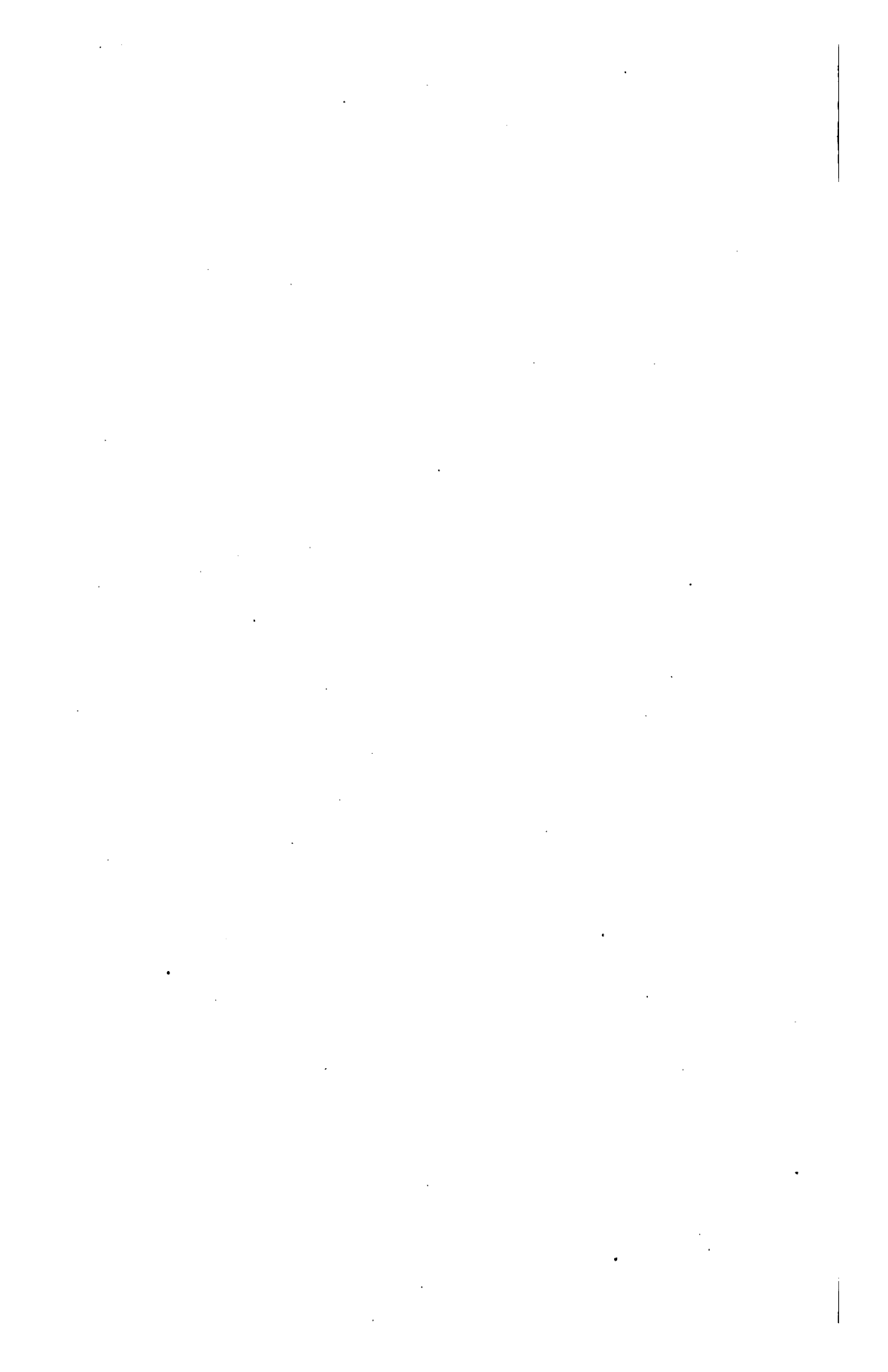
State Fire Marshal

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**TRANSMITTED TO THE LEGISLATURE FEBRUARY 15, 1912**

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ALBANY  
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1912



# STATE OF NEW YORK

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No. 37.

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## IN ASSEMBLY

FEBRUARY 15, 1912.

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### REPORT OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

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*To the Honorable, the Legislature of the State of New York:*

Your honorable body at its session of 1911 passed an act to amend the Insurance Law, in relation to establishing the office of the State Fire Marshal, defining his powers and duties and providing for his compensation and the maintenance of his office. This act became a law on the 26th day of June, 1911, with the approval of the Governor, and now constitutes chapter 451 of the Laws of New York for the year 1911.

On the 26th day of July, 1911, his Excellency, the Governor, saw fit to confer upon me the honor of being the head of this new Department. On the same day the Senate of the State of New York duly confirmed my appointment and I immediately entered upon the discharge of my duties, but was unable to organize my office staff until September 1, 1911, owing to the length of time required to repair and furnish the office assigned to this Department on the first floor of the Capitol building.

In accordance with the provisions of section 358 of the State Fire Marshal Law, I now respectfully transmit to your honorable body a full report of the proceedings of this Department and such statistics as have been gathered for the four months beginning the 1st day of September, 1911, to December 31, 1911, during which time this Department has been organized and in working order and, also, in accordance with the provisions of said section 358, I respectfully present for your consideration such recommendations for amendments to the said law which to me appear to be desirable in order to make the enforcement thereof more effective.

THOMAS J. AHEARN,  
*State Fire Marshal.*

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## **PART I.**

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**Comparative Review of the State Fire Marshal Law of the State of  
New York Showing the Points Where it is at Variance or in  
Conflict With Other State Laws and Pointing Out  
the Provisions Where Amendments  
Seem to be Desirable.**

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## **PART I.**

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### **Comparative Review of the State Fire Marshal Law of the State of New York Showing the Points Where it is at Variance or in Conflict With Other State Laws and Pointing Out the Provisions Where Amendments Seem to be Desirable.**

Your honorable body, of course, is aware that certain minor defects are found to exist in all new laws when put into practice for enforcement, and the State Fire Marshal Law is no exception to this rule. I will, therefore, take the liberty of recommending certain changes and amendments thereto which will render the enforcement of the law more feasible.

Section 351 provides as follows:

“It shall be the duty of the State Fire Marshal to enforce all laws and ordinances of the State, and the several counties, cities and political subdivisions thereof, except in cities having over one million inhabitants, as follows:

1. The prevention of fires;
2. The storage, sale or use of combustibles and explosives;
3. The installation and maintenance of automatic or other fire-alarm systems and fire extinguishing equipment;
4. The inspection of steam boilers;
5. The construction, maintenance and regulation of fire escapes;
6. The means and adequacy of exit, in case of fire, from factories, asylums, hospitals, churches, schools, halls, theaters, amphitheaters and all other places in which numbers of persons work, live, or congregate from time to time for any purpose;
7. The suppression of arson and investigation of the cause, origin and circumstances of fires.”

In order to ascertain what my exact duties are under this section, I have endeavored to gather a full collection of the laws and ordinances of the State, and of the several counties, cities, towns and villages therein upon the various subjects treated in the subdivisions of said section, and to my surprise I have found that there is no system of State laws on those subjects whatever and that such municipal ordinances and regulations as exist in the various localities have never been systematically or scientifically framed, and in some instances are conflicting with each other or with the laws of the State. There are comparatively few localities that have any ordinance at all on such important subjects as are enumerated in this section, and the need of some kind of uniform legislation by the State is imperative.

Subdivision 1. "The prevention of fires." Outside of the city of New York (and there only by recently enacted legislation) neither the State, nor any county, city, township or village has any laws or ordinances on this subject.

Subdivision 2. "The storage, sale or use of combustibles and explosives." This is a subject which deserves the earnest consideration of the Legislature as there is now no system of laws or ordinances either by the State or by any municipality outside of the city of New York. This subdivision should be amended in such a manner as to provide for the issuance of licenses or permits by the State Fire Marshal, allowing the manufacture, transportation, storage, sale or use generally of explosives, highly combustible substances, explosive chemicals, gases in liquid form or under great pressure and other similar dangerous articles or substances. The city of New York has just enacted a code of rules and regulations formulated by its municipal explosive commission which, by the act of the Legislature contained in the fire prevention law applicable to the said city, has become a chapter of the ordinances of the city of New York. Said chapter goes into minute details as to the manufacture, transportation, storage, sale or use of the following articles or substances:

Blasting explosives.

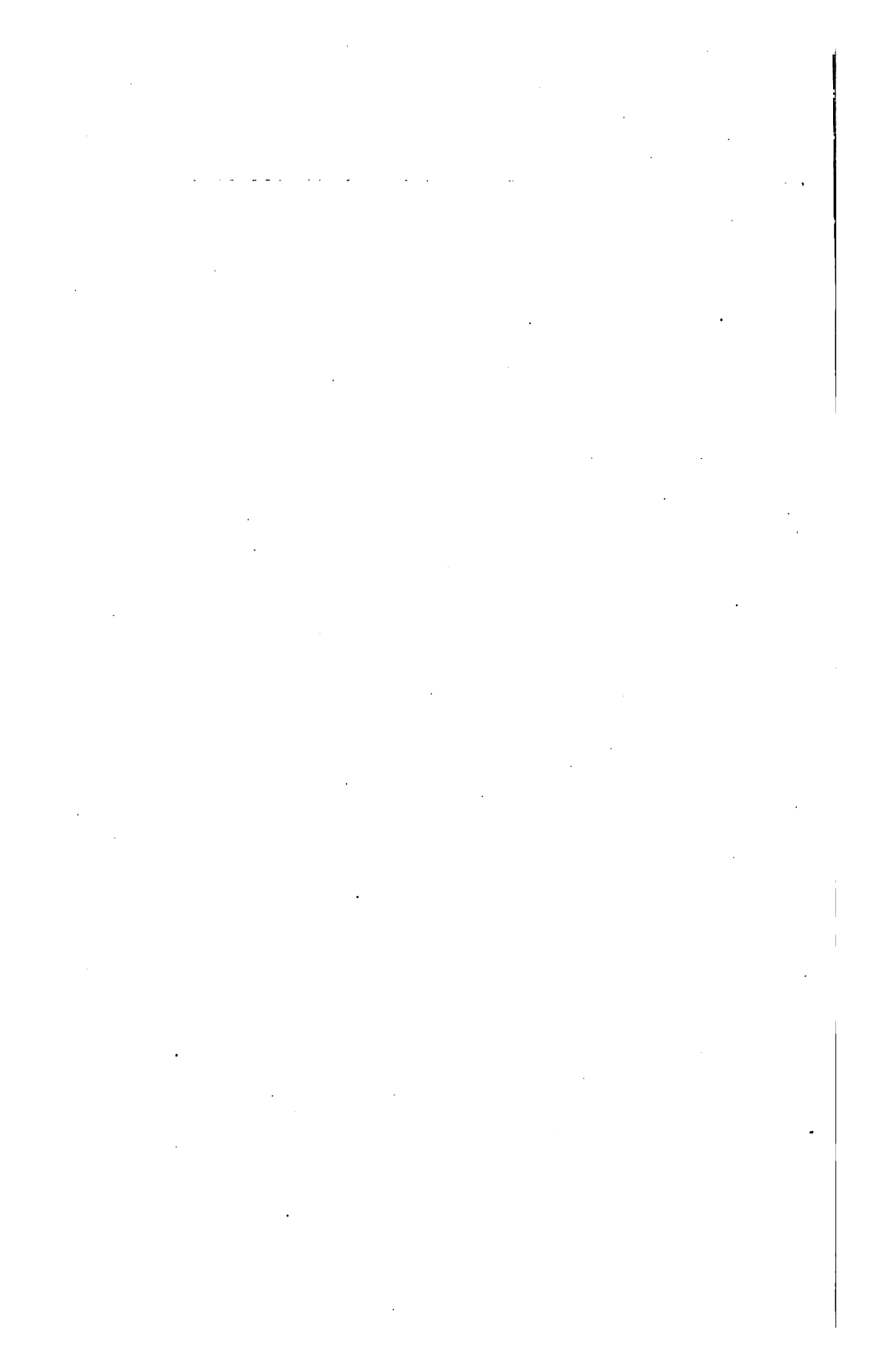
Blasting supplies.

Ammunition.

Plate No. 1



Dilapidated building in the rear of Post-Office and Bank in Southampton, Long Island, originally built by Thomas Sayer in the year 1648, said to be the oldest frame building in the state of New York. This department very reluctantly ordered the demolition of this old building and did so only when it was fully ascertained that it was impossible to move or preserve the same.



Fireworks.

Matches.

Petroleum and other mineral oils.

Inflammable mixtures, such as floor polishes, cleaning fluids, etc.

Storage and handling of gasoline in garages.

Storage and handling of benzine and naphtha in dry-cleaning and dry-dyeing establishments.

Calcium carbide.

Gases under pressure or in liquid form.

Nitro-cellulose and its products.

Inflammable motion picture films.

Distilling and rectifying liquors and alcohols.

Oils and fats.

Paints, varnishes and lacquers.

Technical establishments using or producing explosive articles or substances.

Wholesale drug stores and drug and chemical supply houses.

Retail drug stores storing inflammable or explosive chemicals.

Storage of combustible fibres, such as hemp, jute, oakum, cotton, flax, rags, etc.

Storage of wooden packing boxes, cases or barrels.

To my mind the State Fire Marshal should, by an amendment to subdivision 2, be empowered to formulate a similar set of rules which, however, should be sufficiently elastic as to be applicable to the varying needs of the different localities within the State. It should be made unlawful for any person to handle any of the above-mentioned articles without a permit and the supervision of the State Fire Marshal.

A fee could be charged for the issuance of such a permit which, while nominal in itself, would be sufficient, in my opinion, to pay for the cost of inspection and supervision, and thus, without any additional expense to the State, a double object would be attained, namely: A scientific and continuous control in a practical manner of these dangerous substances, which, if only for statistical purposes, would be found of untold value and the lessening of the

danger of explosion by compelling the use of all necessary modern safeguards.

Subdivision 3 is as follows: "The installation and maintenance of automatic or other fire-alarm systems and fire extinguishing equipment." On this subject also it would seem to be necessary that the State Fire Marshal be empowered by law to formulate such rules as might be applicable to the conditions found to exist in the various localities within the State.

Subdivision 4 and the last paragraph of section 355, relative to the inspection of steam boilers, is as follows:

"The State Fire Marshal shall also cause to be inspected all boilers in buildings and all other places where the same are used for the generation of steam, except where a certificate has been filed certifying that such boilers have been inspected by a duly authorized insurance company. A fee of five dollars shall be charged the owner or lessee of each boiler inspected by the inspector of the office of the State Fire Marshal."

You will note that this section makes no distinction whatever between the small house-heating boiler in a private residence carrying about one pound steam pressure to the square inch and a large power boiler carrying a pressure of 100 pounds or over. To my mind this paragraph should be made applicable only to such boilers as carry a steam pressure of ten pounds or more to the square inch. To require the inspection of boilers carrying a lower pressure than ten pounds and which are mainly used for heating purposes is, as I am sure you will agree, unreasonable, for such boilers could not be the cause of any conceivable danger to persons or to property. When the owner of such a boiler is compelled to pay a fee either to the State or to an insurance company for an inspection which is not needed, he is apt to object very strenuously, as is evidenced by a great number of letters received by this Department protesting against the enforcement of this provision in so far as it relates to low pressure boilers.

I have requested the Attorney-General to give me the benefit of his opinion on the question whether, under the requirements of this paragraph, I was justified in causing the inspection of high

pressure boilers only, and he has decided that while such might have been the intent of the Legislature, the wording of this section was very plain and left no alternative for any different interpretation.

The said last paragraph of section 355 is also defective in that it does not prescribe the kind of an inspection necessary to be made and what must a certificate of inspection show in order to make it acceptable for filing in this office. At present a certificate of inspection must be accepted here for filing even though it may show on its face that the boiler inspected is in a defective and dangerous condition. The very fact that such a certificate is filed precludes this Department from taking any action in the matter; and thus the anomalous situation is presented that although I have official knowledge that a boiler is in a dangerous condition and unfit to be used, I have no means under the law to force the proprietor to discontinue the use of such a boiler or to place same in proper repair. I, therefore, respectfully suggest that this paragraph be changed so as to empower this Department to make uniform rules for the inspection of boilers; to order the use of any boiler shown to be in a defective condition to be discontinued until proper repairs have been made, and to provide a penalty for the willful disobedience of an order of this Department in relation to boiler inspection.

This paragraph should also be amended by specifying more particularly what classes of boilers are intended to be inspected. As it stands now it applies to all boilers indiscriminately. I am, however, informed that boilers on steam vessels are inspected regularly by inspectors of the Federal government, while boilers on steam locomotives are under the jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission. I think, therefore, that the law should specifically exempt for the inspection by this Department the two classes of boilers above mentioned and also boilers on fire engines of any organized fire department.

While upon this subject and in connection with it I may be permitted to respectfully call the attention of the Legislature to the lack of any law calling for the examination and licensing of stationary engineers. Some of the cities in the State have made provision for a local system of licenses, which is neither adequate nor satisfactory.



It would seem that there is very little use in requiring a systematic inspection of boilers and their maintenance in good working condition and then allow such boilers to be placed in the charge of some person who has neither the experience, capacity or intelligence necessary to properly operate the same.

An amendment to the law should, therefore, be enacted providing for the examination and licensing of all persons operating steam engines, except those on locomotives, vessels, fire engines, etc.

This Department, with very little additional cost, could conduct such examination and issue a license to the persons found to be qualified, upon payment of a fee sufficient to pay the expense of the examination and necessary supervision.

Subdivision 5 relates to the construction, maintenance and regulation of fire escapes. I have ascertained that upon this subject also there are but few cities which have any adequate local ordinances, and such as there are vary substantially in their standards of details, such as size, shape, etc. It would seem desirable, therefore, that the State Fire Marshal should have the power to formulate and enforce regulations in reference to the construction, installation and maintenance of fire escapes and make same applicable to all localities where no local ordinances or only inadequate ones are in force.

The same recommendation is respectfully made with regard to subdivision 6.

“The means and adequacy of exit, in case of fire, from factories, asylums, hospitals, churches, schools, halls, theaters, amphitheaters and all other places in which numbers of persons work, live, or congregate from time to time for any purpose.”

Subdivision 7, which aims at the suppression of arson, and the investigation of the cause, origin and circumstances of fires, is being observed throughout the State, and while the machinery provided by the law to enable this Department to obtain the necessary information is at present somewhat crude, I fully expect that all the assistants to the State Fire Marshal, when they shall have become thoroughly familiar with their duties, will be able to render very valuable services in this direction. I am gratified that so far none of them has shown any reluctance to perform

the additional work imposed upon them by the State Fire Marshal Law, which, in a good many cases, means to them the loss of time, money and sometimes friends.

Section 354, which relates to the duties of the assistants to the State Fire Marshal, makes it incumbent upon them to "investigate the cause, origin and circumstances of every fire occurring in any city, town or village in this State by which property has been destroyed or damaged and, so far as it is possible, determine whether the fire was the result of carelessness or design." It is to be noted in connection with this paragraph that by converse reasoning it might be held that the assistants to the State Fire Marshal are *not* required to investigate any fire or *explosion* which, while not damaging or destroying any property, might have caused the loss of one or more human lives. It seems to me that this paragraph should be amended so as to require the investigation of such fires or explosions.

The same section, section 354, further on provides that "every fire occurring in this State shall be reported in writing to the State Fire Marshal within thirty days after the occurrence of the same \* \* \*." I respectfully suggest that thirty days is an unnecessarily long time to be given to the assistants to the State Fire Marshal to enable them to make their report and that fifteen days ought to be sufficient.

Section 355, which specifies the duties of the State Fire Marshal and his assistants to inspect property, provides, among other things, that "whenever any of said officers shall find any building or other structure which, for want of repairs, lack of or insufficient fire escapes, automatic or other fire alarm apparatus or fire extinguishing equipment, or by reason of age or dilapidated condition or for any other cause, *is especially liable to fire and which is so situated as to endanger other property*, and whenever such officer shall find in any building combustible or explosive matter or inflammable conditions *dangerous to the safety of such buildings* he or they shall order the same to be removed or remedied \* \* \*." I would respectfully suggest, in connection with this paragraph, that a building or structure might *not* conceivably be *especially liable to fire or situated so as to endanger other property by reason of the lack of or insufficient fire escapes,*

*automatic or other fire alarm apparatus or fire extinguishing equipment \* \* \*,"* while at the same time it might cause the loss of human life and irreparable damage to the property contained within its walls. And, again, a large quantity of explosives stored in an open lot might not be considered dangerous to the safety of any building, while at the same time they might be dangerous to the life of any passer-by. I, therefore, respectfully request that the said paragraph be amended along the lines indicated.

Sections 353, 354 and 355 particularly specify, among other things, what are the duties of the assistants to the State Fire Marshal under this act.

Section 361 provides for their compensation as follows:

"Except in cities having over seventy-five thousand inhabitants, all assistants to the State Fire Marshal not receiving a salary from the State of New York, shall receive, upon the audit of the State Fire Marshal, fifty cents for each report of each separate fire reported to the State Fire Marshal under the provisions of this article, and in addition there shall be paid to the chiefs of the fire departments, or to the president or like senior officer of each incorporated village in which no paid fire department exists, or to the town clerk of each organized town without the limits of an incorporated village or city, whose duty it shall have been to make and who actually made the investigation, the sum of fifteen cents for each mile traveled to the place of fire, and, in the discretion of the State Fire Marshal, where an investigation has been had a sum not to exceed two dollars for each day's service spent in such investigation."

It is to be noted here that no provision is made for the compensation of assistants to the State Fire Marshal (most of whom are clerks or workmen in small towns or villages serving as chief engineers of a voluntary fire department without any compensation) when called upon by this Department to inspect buildings within their jurisdiction, to report on the condition of such buildings, to serve notices of violation upon owners or occupants of

unsafe premises, to inspect said premises from time to time for the purpose of ascertaining whether the orders of this Department have been complied with, and for attending to a number of other little matters of detail which they are called upon to do under instruction from this Department. I respectfully submit that section 361 be amended so as to provide a suitable compensation to the assistants to the State Fire Marshal for such services.

Section 361 of the act provides that "there shall be paid to the chiefs of the fire departments, or to the president or like senior officer of each incorporated village in which no paid fire department exists." This should be amended so that in an incorporated village where there is no paid fire department, but where there is a chief engineer of the fire department, he should be the assistant to the State Fire Marshal and receive the fees for the office in preference to the president or like senior officer.

The last paragraph of section 355, which prescribes the method of enforcement of an order of this Department, should be amended so as to empower the State Fire Marshal to demolish at the expiration of ten days from the service of notice any building, "which by reason of age or dilapidated condition or for any other cause is especially liable to fire and so situated as to endanger other property," in all cases where the owner or occupant has failed and neglected to comply with the notice served upon him, but before such demolition could be authorized photographs of the building or structure should be taken and kept in the files of this Department. The cost and expense of demolition, as well as the amount of any penalty recovered, should be made the first lien upon the premises. The reason for this suggestion is that under the law as it stands, if a person fails to repair or demolish his building as directed by this Department an action must be begun in the name of the people of the State of New York to collect the penalty; and in the meantime while the action is pending the building might be set on fire and cause a great conflagration.

Section 356 of the act provides that the State Fire Marshal or his deputies may at any time investigate as to the origin or circumstances of any fire occurring in this State and shall have the power to summon witnesses and compel them to attend before them or either of them and to testify in relation to any matters

that by the provision of this article is subject to inquiry or investigations and may require the production of any book, paper or document deemed pertinent or necessary to the inquiries and shall have the power to administer oaths, etc., but there is no provision in said act as to whether or not said witnesses shall be entitled to any fee for attending, nor is there any provision empowering the State Fire Marshal to pay them, so I respectfully suggest that witnessed so subpoenaed should be entitled by law to receive compensation in the same manner as provided for witnesses summoned to testify in courts of record.

In enacting the State Fire Marshal Law your honorable body through inadvertence neglected to insert the clause generally included in all new legislation that "all acts or parts of acts inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed," so that a peculiar situation has been brought about by the existence of different laws charging two or more State departments with the duty of enforcing their requirements, for instance: The Labor Law, section 124, gives the State Commissioner of Labor the jurisdiction to inspect and examine boilers in factories and also accept for filing in his office certificates of inspection made by any competent person designated by him, whereas the State Fire Marshal Law in the last paragraph of section 355 provides that "the State Fire Marshal shall also cause to be inspected all boilers *in buildings and all other places* where the same are used for the generation of steam except where a certificate has been filed certifying that such boilers have been inspected by a duly authorized insurance company." It is plain on a comparison of these two provisions that there is a conflict in the requirement of each, that there is a division of jurisdiction and a useless duplication of labor and expense. Now since the State Fire Marshal is the official authorized to cause the inspection of all boilers no matter where located. and since the State Commissioner of Labor is only authorized to cause the inspection of boilers located in factories, it seems to me that the jurisdiction of inspection of all boilers should be vested exclusively in this Department and thus avert the inconvenience to which I have referred.

In the same manner sections 82 and 83 of the Labor Law give the State Commissioner of Labor jurisdiction and power to direct

Plate No. 2



Dilapidated building 106 Broadway, Kingston, N. Y., demolished by order of this department.



the erection of fire escapes in buildings used as factories, whereas on the other hand subdivision 5 of section 351 of the State Fire Marshal Law makes it the duty of the State Fire Marshal "to enforce all laws and ordinances of the State and of the several counties, cities and political subdivisions thereof \* \* \*" in relation to "the construction, maintenance and regulation of fire escapes." Now it can be plainly seen that there is here a duplication of jurisdiction which not only causes a loss of time, money and labor, but is likely to lead to a conflict of authority between two State departments, which should, by all means, be averted. It would, therefore, seem that since the State Fire Marshal is required to enforce the law in relation to fire escapes, whether used for factory purposes or not, exclusive jurisdiction over this subject should be given to this Department.

Some legislation should also be enacted making it compulsory upon the owners or managers of each manufacturing or mercantile establishment throughout the State employing more than twenty persons in the same building to hold at irregular intervals, but at least twice a month, five minutes before the noon hour or closing hour, a fire drill of the employees, using both the interior and exterior means of egress, under the direction of the local assistant to the State Fire Marshal, and providing a punishment for failure to do so.

In the absence of any comprehensive State legislation governing the construction of buildings used as manufacturing or mercantile establishments, I deem it my duty to request that a law be passed requiring that in every factory or mercantile establishment, wherein a number of people are employed on the floors below the ground level, such floors, basements or sub-basements should have proper access to the street or ground independent of any other exits through the rest of the building.

Section 125 of the Labor Law gives the State Commissioner of Labor the power to prescribe rules for the handling, storage and use of high explosives and gun powder when used only in mines, tunnels or quarries. The same section further on prescribes in detail the manner in which such high explosives and gun powder should be handled and used, while on the contrary subdivision 2 of section 351 of the State Fire Marshal Law makes it the duty



of the State Fire Marshal "to enforce all laws of the State and the several counties, cities and several political subdivisions thereof \* \* \*" in relation to "the storage, sale or use of combustibles and *explosives*" no matter where used. Here again we have a duplication of jurisdiction which should be avoided, and since the State Fire Marshal is charged with the duty of enforcing the law in relation to all kinds of explosives (not alone blasting explosives) whenever manufactured, transported, stored, sold or used in any place whatever (and not alone in mines, tunnels or quarries), it is desirable that exclusive jurisdiction should be given to this Department over the subject-matter and also to provide for licensing handlers of explosives.

Subdivisions 2 and 3 of section 452 of the Education Law provide for proper exits in all school buildings, but do not place the responsibility upon anybody to compel the compliance with the same. Upon inspections in various parts of the State it has been found that the requirements of said subdivisions are, in a number of cases, ignored or evaded. This Department should, therefore, be specifically clothed with the power to enforce compliance with the provisions of the two said subdivisions.

Section 453 of the Education Law provides for the erection and maintenance of fire escapes on school buildings more than two stories high, and makes it the duty of the local school trustees or of the local board of education to see that said fire escapes are properly constructed and maintained. In a great many instances where school buildings have been inspected by this Department they have been found to be totally lacking in fire escape equipment, and it may also be observed here that where school buildings are used for the education of very small children or for the lower primary grades, the erection of a fire escape leading from the second story to the ground should be made compulsory even on buildings that are only two stories high. In this case also the State Fire Marshal should be given power in his discretion to demand the installation of adequate fire escape facilities.

Section 720 of the Education Law makes it the duty of "the principal or other person in charge of every public or private school or educational institution within the State, having more than 100 pupils in a building two or more stories high, to instruct

and train the pupils by means of drills, so that they may in a sudden emergency be able to leave the school building in the shortest possible time and without confusion or panic. Such drills or rapid dismissals shall be held at least once in each month."

Section 721 of the Education Law prescribes that the principal or other person neglecting to comply with the requirements of section 720 is guilty of a misdemeanor and is punishable by a fine not exceeding \$50. Upon investigation made by this Department it has been ascertained that fire drills in schools in a good many cases are not held at all, or only held at infrequent intervals, and then in charge of some incompetent person, nor is there any record of any school official having been convicted or punished for such neglect. I would respectfully suggest that section 720 be changed so as to provide that it should be the duty of the local assistant to the State Fire Marshal to supervise the school drill, which should be held at regular intervals, but never less than once a month.

Section 722 of the Education Law provides that "it shall be the duty of the board of education or school board or other body having control of the schools in any district or city to cause a copy of this article to be printed in the manual or handbook prepared for the guidance of teachers, where such manual or handbook is in use or may hereafter come into use." I would suggest that this section be further extended as to provide, as a part of the curriculum of instructions to pupils, certain lessons at stated periods on the subject of fire prevention. It is not desired that the feeling of the young should be excited by stories of the horrors of fire or the reference to any particular disaster, but rather that they should be instructed in the simple and ordinary means of fire prevention and in the careful use and handling of combustible and inflammable materials which come under their observation and contact every day at home and at school, that all fires are of the same size at the start, that the flame of a match, candle, lamp, oil stove or the spark from a locomotive or an inextinguished cigarette or cigar, although small as the means of starting a fire, may at the same time cause a great conflagration.

Subdivision 2 of section 362 of the State Fire Marshal Law provides that said law "shall not apply to cities having more than one million inhabitants which maintain a municipal fire marshal \* \* \*." There is at present only one city in the State which is exempted under this section, namely, the city of New York. There are a number of institutions and other buildings within the limits of the city of New York owned and maintained by the State, namely: Three armories, one arsenal, the quarantine station and hospital, the House of Refuge on Randall's Island and the Manhattan State Hospital for the Insane on Ward's Island. Under said subdivision 2 the State Fire Marshal has no jurisdiction whatever to order any changes or alterations calculated for the better protection of patients, inmates and others within the said buildings or institutions. On the other hand, as for instance: In the case of the Manhattan State Hospital for the Insane a paragraph of section 17 of the Insanity Law provides that "no municipality of the State shall have the power to modify or change plans or specifications for the erection, repair or improvement of State hospital buildings \* \* \*" so that we have one law prohibiting the State Fire Marshal from inspecting said institution and prescribing the necessary changes or alterations therein, and on the other hand the Insanity Law prohibiting the local authorities from ordering such changes or alterations.

In relation to the other buildings, armories, hospitals and the House of Refuge, the Hon. Joseph Johnson, fire commissioner of the city of New York, has agreed with me that it would be desirable on all sides that buildings owned and maintained by the State of New York should be regularly inspected by the office of the State Fire Marshal. I believe that it is but proper that it should be so and ask that the jurisdiction of this Department be extended to all premises which are the property of the State of New York even though they are located within the boundaries of a city having more than 1,000,000 inhabitants.

Section 205 of the General Business Law provides that in hotels not fireproof and exceeding two stories in height a rope or other better appliance shall be provided in each room to be used as a fire escape. It is a question of very grave speculation to imagine how many guests would be saved from the total number of those

occupying the large four and five-story frame structures on the mountains or on the seashore which are used as summer hotels. mainly by women, children and invalids, if the only means afforded to them of escaping from the upper stories in the night time was by sliding down a rope fire escape. Any projection extending out of the face of the wall on the floors below, such as coping, cornice or other architectural feature, would necessarily come in violent contact with the hands of the person sliding down, thus causing a fall and severe injuries.

I earnestly urge the repeal of this section and that, in its stead, the State Fire Marshal should be empowered to use his discretion as to the kind of a fire escape which will best answer the purpose in each given case.

The second part of section 205 of the General Business Law makes it the duty of the chief engineer of the fire department or other officer of each city or village to make a semi-annual inspection of all hotels within his jurisdiction. It also provides that a report of such should be filed with the mayor, president or other officer performing the duties of chief executive of each locality who is charged with the collection of a penalty not exceeding \$50 for each offense. In the case of the smaller villages and towns this section has been a dead letter, and I respectfully suggest that it be amended so as to make it the duty of the said officials in their capacity as assistants to the State Fire Marshal and under his discretion to make the semi-annual inspections and to file their report in this Department within fifteen days after such an inspection has been made, the State Fire Marshal being authorized to bring suits against violators of this law in the same manner as otherwise provided for in the State Fire Marshal Law.

Section 302 of the General Business Law, relating to the storage of petroleum and its products, section 303, relating to the standard test, storage and sale of refined petroleum and kerosene oil, and section 304, relating to the standard test, storage and sale of oils used for illuminating and heating purposes, confer upon the State Board of Health the power to "prescribe the tests and instruments by which such oils and fluids shall be tested and to adopt such measures to enforce the provisions of said sections and such rules and regulations for collecting, examining and test-

ing samples of such oils and fluids as, to them, may seem necessary." On the other hand, subdivision 2 of section 351 of the State Fire Marshal Law makes it the duty of the State Fire Marshal to enforce all laws of the State and of the several counties, cities and political subdivisions thereof in relation to the storage, sale or use of combustibles and explosives.

I respectfully submit that the refining, storing, testing, sale or handling of petroleum and any of its distilled or refined products are assuredly subjects which come under subdivision 2 and should be placed under the exclusive jurisdiction of the State Fire Marshal.

In the same manner section 305, which prescribes the method of inspection of the storage and sale of petroleum and its liquid products, should provide that the reports of the local inspectors or of the local assistant to the State Fire Marshal should be filed forthwith with the State Fire Marshal, whose duty it should be to enforce the penalties prescribed in section 307 of the General Business Law for the violation of any of the requirements of article 19.

As the law now stands, or rather on account of the lack of any law, it is possible for any person to establish a factory or magazine for the manufacture or storage of high explosives in any place in the State outside of New York city, without any official supervision whatever and subject only to the railroad regulations and the common sense of the user. As I pointed out just now, the State law prescribes very minutely the different tests to which petroleum and its products and distilled spirits must be subjected before they can be used or sold within the State of New York. How much greater then is the necessity of vesting in some State department the authority to cause the testing of any explosive intended to be sold or used within the State before the same is manufactured or brought in? There are a vast number of explosives on the market, most of them widely advertised for their alleged safety qualities, which have never been tested officially so as to ascertain the proper conditions under which they can be handled, and I, therefore, respectfully suggest that the State Fire Marshal, before licensing or allowing the use of any explosive within its jurisdiction, should be authorized to cause such tests, analysis and demonstrations to be made as to enable him to formu-

late and enforce proper rules or regulations for its handling and use, and also to examine and license persons handling or using the same.

I think the time has arrived when the General Business Law should be amended so as to prohibit the manufacture, storage, sale and use of white phosphorus matches. I am not urging this as a measure of health protection for the operatives employed in the manufacture of matches in which white phosphorus enters as an ingredient, nor on account of the fact that many small children yearly die of poisoning by placing the ends of such matches in their mouths while playing. These matters can properly be left to the State Health Department, but as a fire prevention measure nobody can gainsay the assertion that the white phosphorus or snap match has been and is one of the most prolific causes of fire, as can be seen by the statistics to be found on table No. 10.

Section 1094 of the Penal Law, which prescribes that "a person who makes or keeps gun powder, nitroglycerine or other explosive or combustible material within a city or village, or carry such material through the streets thereof in a quantity or manner prohibited by law or by ordinances of the city or village, is guilty of a misdemeanor." In this connection I desire to repeat what I have previously stated in this report, that very few cities or villages in this State have any ordinances upon the subject at all and such ordinances as exist are, in most cases, insufficient and obsolete, and also that this section makes no provision for the regulating of the manufacture, transportation, storage, sale or use of explosives outside of the limits of a city or village or upon the highways, rivers and canals of this State. I would, therefore, respectfully suggest that the said section be amended by eliminating the words "city or village," thus making it a crime for any person to make or keep gunpowder, nitroglycerine or any other explosive or combustible material within this State or carry such materials through the highways or waters thereof in a quantity or manner prohibited by law or ordinances or without a license from the State Fire Marshal.

Section 80 of the Public Buildings Law prescribes in detail the fire protection necessary to be installed in all public institutions of the State but makes no like provision for the same protection for other public institutions which are the property of or maintained

by the various political subdivisions of the State. It is notorious and has been ascertained by several inspections made by this Department that some of the worst fire traps in the State are buildings maintained by counties, cities, towns and villages as county jails, almshouses, homes and asylums of various kinds. The provisions of section 80 of the Public Buildings Law should, therefore, be made to apply to all State buildings wherever located and to all city, county, town and village buildings or institutions outside of the limits of the city of New York and it should be made the duty of the State Fire Marshal and of his deputies and assistants under his jurisdiction to make a semi-annual inspection of each of said institutions and buildings and order such changes and alterations as may be deemed necessary for the better protection of the occupants and inmates thereof.

The total lack of a State law, governing the erection of buildings throughout the State and providing for their proper equipment and the necessary fire appliances, is painfully apparent and the necessity for some legislation on the subject should be recognized, for, as I have stated on another subject in this report, the vast majority of cities, towns and villages in this State restrict their fire preventive legislation to the delineation of certain boundaries within which the erection of wooden buildings is prohibited and even in cases of this kind the law is not enforced. I have in mind one case in a certain city in the central portion of the State where this Department was called upon by a citizen to prevent the erection of a wooden building within the fire limits of the said city for which a permit had already been issued by the local authorities in direct violation of the law. This Department took the matter up with the local authorities and after lengthy correspondence they have agreed to compel the person who was erecting said structure to line the same on the outside with one course of brick.

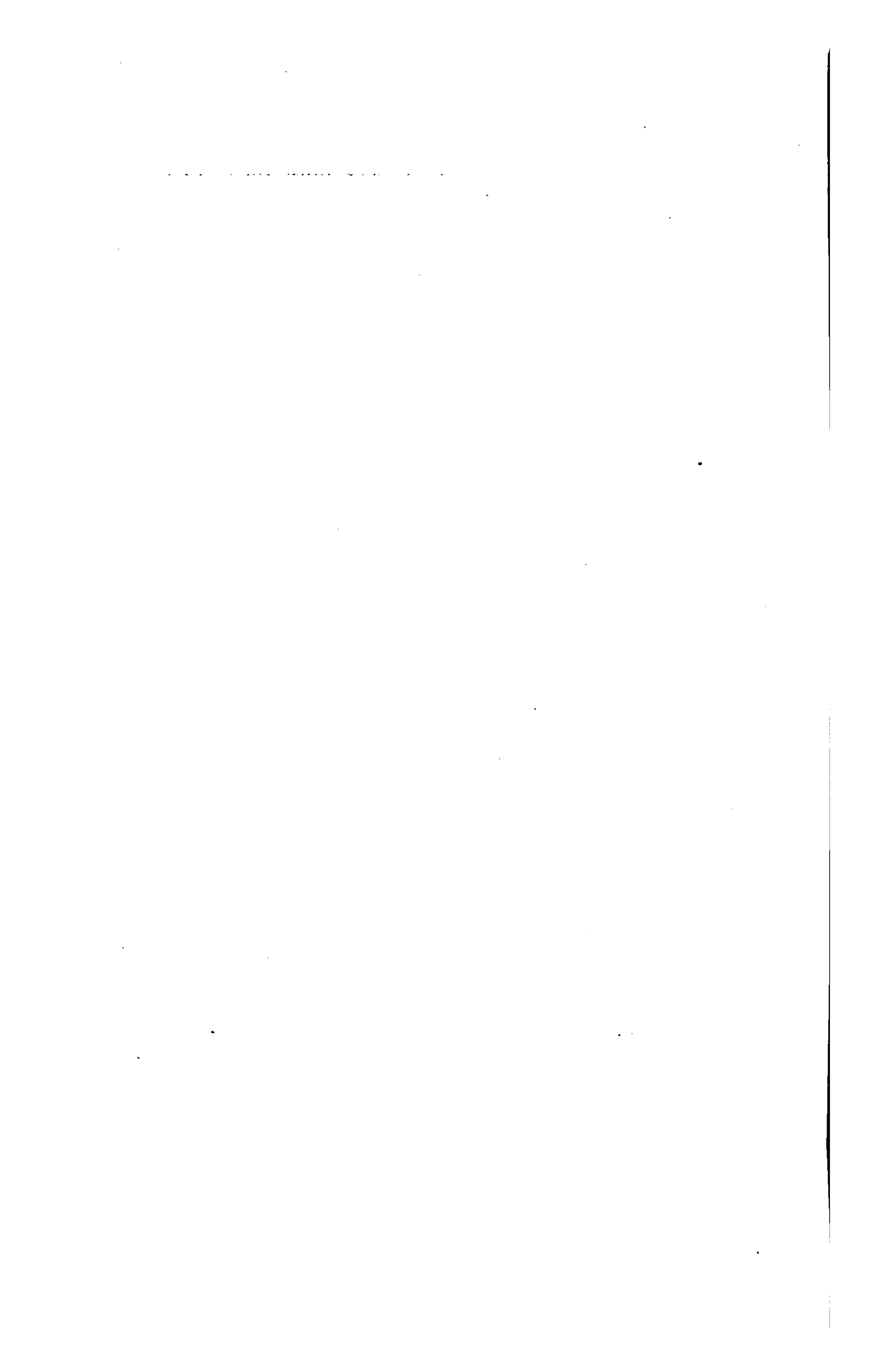
It is a well-recognized fact that the damage to contents of buildings by water used in extinguishing fires is one of the most important items to be considered in computing the fire losses. This item of loss, to great extent, could be reduced in modern manufacturing and mercantile buildings, especially those covering large areas, by constructing the floors in such a manner that all water gathered on each floor could be made to run to one or more points

Plate No. 3



Dilapidated building 132-134 North James street, Rome, N. Y., demolished by order of this department.





and into the drainage system which should be provided for each floor separately.

There is no fire fighting apparatus at present in use that is capable of effectively fighting a fire above the seventh floor of any building. It would, therefore, seem to be necessary that buildings of greater height to be used as factories or mercantile establishments should be properly equipped with standpipes and automatic sprinklers connected with not only the ordinary water supply but also with gravity tanks of a sufficient capacity erected at least ten feet above the highest point of the building. These tanks should always be kept full of water and inspected regularly and the standpipes should have siamese connections outside of the building at the sidewalk to enable the fire department to connect its engines and hose thereto.

A number of other States of the United States and Provinces of the Dominion of Canada have recently enacted certain legislation along the lines of the State Fire Marshal Law of this State, and some of them have included in their laws certain provisions which I deem advisable to call the attention of your honorable body with a view of having them incorporated into our law in order to render it more effective; for instance, section 146m of the State Fire Marshal Law of the State of Wisconsin provides that any officer, who, by virtue of the act, is made an assistant to the State Fire Marshal and fails and neglects to comply with the requirements of the State Fire Marshal Law "shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not less than \$25 nor more than \$200 for each neglect or violation." The incorporation of such a clause into the State Fire Marshal Law of this State would greatly facilitate its enforcement.

Some of the cities in this State, although fairly prosperous and increasing in population and wealth, have not yet become convinced of the necessity to organize a paid and properly equipped fire department. I think this is a matter of sufficient importance to be called to the attention of the Legislature so that some legislative action may be taken toward the establishment of this very important means of fire protection, and in the same manner cities of the first class should be required by law to install a separate system of water supply at high pressure for fire fighting purposes.

A great many of the small towns and villages of this State by

reason of lack of means or other causes have failed and neglected to procure fire apparatus and to obtain sufficient water supply to fight fire. I would respectfully suggest that the annual fire waste thus caused receive the attention of your honorable Legislature and would strongly urge that some way may be found in assisting such committees to procure the ordinary means of fire protection, as any one of such places lacking this may at any time suffer heavy losses. It is a fact too often overlooked that waste by fire is a loss to the community as a whole, as well as to the particular locality where it occurs.

When this Department was first organized I issued a letter requesting each fire insurance company doing business in this State to facilitate the work of this Department by voluntarily furnishing reports of fire losses incurred by them upon blanks furnished by this office. Almost without any exception they have agreed to do so and we are daily receiving such reports. One of the results obtained was that it has furnished this Department with the means of testing the accuracy of reports forwarded, by the assistants to the State Fire Marshal, and another was that we have thus obtained reports of fires of which the local authorities have had no knowledge, no fire department having been called out. The number of such fires is very considerable and some report of the same is necessary to this office for the compilation of complete and accurate statistics of all the fires whether large or small and whether extinguished by a fire department or by private individuals.

I would respectfully suggest that such important service should not be left to the voluntary act of the insurance companies but that some provisions should be incorporated in the law similar in substance to section 50 of chapter 28 of the Revised Statutes of the State of Maine, which provides that "every fire insurance company or association transacting business in the State shall report to the \* \* \* (State Fire Marshal) \* \* \* within ten days after the adjustment of every loss the amount of insurance paid or payable on account of such loss and such other information relating to the matter as the \* \* \* (State Fire Marshal) \* \* \* requires."

During the four months that this Department has been organized, it has been called upon to investigate a number of suspicious

or alleged incendiary fires, and in the course of the investigations and the testimony taken in connection therewith the fact has been prominently brought forth by the people making complaints, namely, insurance companies, agents and adjusters, that the basis of the suspicion of the motive for the incendiarism was to be found in the alleged over insurance on the part of the person sustaining the loss. In no case have I been able to obtain a shred of evidence that the insurance company issuing the policy had, before accepting the premium, made any effort whatever to ascertain whether the premises or the contents, for which the insurance was sought, were valued at anything like the figure mentioned in the policy, but invariably when the loss occurred it was immediately alleged that the property destroyed or damaged was not worth the amount of insurance placed upon it.

I have carefully searched the Insurance Law of this State but I have failed to find therein any provision which prohibits an insurance company from accepting a premium for a policy of fire insurance for an amount in excess of the actual value of the property. Neither do I find any provision requiring that an appraisal or estimate of the property to be insured be made before the issuance of a policy.

In other States it has been realized that over insurance against fire is one of the principal incentives which lead people to commit the crime of arson and, while these remarks might be made with greater propriety by the Insurance Department of this State and without any intention on my part to interfere even in the slightest manner with the prerogatives of that department, I would respectfully call the attention of the Legislature to the advisability of enacting as a part of the Insurance Law of this State some provisions along the lines in the Insurance Law of the State of North Carolina, section 4755 of chapter 54 of the Laws of 1899, which provides that "no insurance company or agent shall knowingly issue any insurance policy upon property within this State for an amount which, together with any existing insurance thereon, exceeds the fair value of the property \* \* \*." Policies issued in violation of this section shall be binding upon the company issuing them, although such company shall, nevertheless, be liable for the forfeiture by law prescribed for such violation" and section 483 of the same law which prescribes a penalty for a violation of the

above section in the following words: "no insurance company or agent who shall make, issue or deliver a policy of fire insurance in willful violation of section \* \* \* 4755 \* \* \* shall forfeit for each offense not less than \$50 nor more than \$200; but such policy shall, nevertheless, be binding upon the company issuing the same."

In this connection I respectfully urge your honorable body to consider the advisability of enacting some amendment to the Insurance Law providing for the cancellation of any fire insurance policy existing upon a building or other structure maintained in violation of the State Fire Marshal Law and in defiance of the orders to remedy such violation by either repairing or demolishing the premises. Such action when taken by the fire insurance companies at the request of the State Fire Marshal would be a great lever to compel obedience to the law for I have found that in some cases the owners of unsafe or dilapidated buildings, having no consideration for the safety of adjoining premises, prefer to have their property burned down and thus profit by receiving the amount of insurance rather than demolish or repair the same at the direction of this Department.

In compliance with the express direction of the Legislature contained in the last sentence of section 358 of the State Fire Marshal Law in the following words: "he shall also recommend any amendments to the law which in his judgment shall be desirable," I have taken the liberty to dwell somewhat at length on the subject-matter involved in this legislation which, while new for this State, has already been recognized as destined to be of immense benefit to the community in ameliorating the present deplorable fire conditions, thus reducing the great loss of lives and property caused thereby. I beg to assure you gentlemen that in making the recommendations above outlined and in calling the attention of your honorable body to some of the incongruities, deficiencies and duplications of work caused by the various provisions of the State Fire Marshal Law and other laws, I am actuated by no desire for increased powers for the Department of which I have the honor to be at the head at the present time, but simply and sincerely by the same motive which the Legislature had in passing the Fire Marshal Law, namely, the reduction of the fire losses and the possible saving of lives and property.

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## **PART II.**

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**Report of Work Done by the Department of the State Fire Marshal  
During the Three Months Beginning October 1, 1911, to  
December 31, 1911, Pursuant to the Provisions of  
Chapter 451 of the Laws of 1911.**

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## **PART II.**

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### **Report of Work Done by the Department of the State Fire Marshal During the Three Months Beginning October 1, 1911 to December 31, 1911, Pursuant to the Provisions of Chapter 461 of the Laws of 1911.**

The organization of this Department in the Empire State has been a task of considerable difficulty and it has required a great deal of time and patience as well as the co-operation and good-will of all who are interested directly or indirectly on any of the subjects which come under its jurisdiction. I am glad to be able to report that the Department is now well organized and, having in mind the limited means placed at its disposal by the Legislature, fully equipped to do the work required by the State Fire Marshal Law. During the three months from October 1 to December 31, 1911, even while busily at work perfecting an organization, the Department has found time and opportunity to make itself useful for the purpose prescribed by the law.

I now report to your honorable body the work performed and the results achieved along those lines during the said period describing separately a small fraction of what has been accomplished upon each of the various subdivisions of section 351 of the State Fire Marshal Law, defining the duties of the State Fire Marshal.

#### **1. PREVENTION OF FIRES.**

In the absence of specific legislation upon that subject I have endeavored to eliminate the various fire dangers which can be caused by a building or structure which, "for want of repairs \* \* \* age or dilapidated condition or for any other cause is especially liable to fire and which is so situated as to endanger other property" and upon complaints duly filed in this office by assistant State Fire Marshals and other persons, I have issued orders requiring the demolition or the placing in proper repair of twenty-four structures in various parts of the State, a detailed account of which can be found in table No. 1.



I am attaching on plates No. 1, 2, 3, and 4 some photographs of such dilapidated structures taken before their demolition was ordered and I have made it a rule that no order, calling for the demolition of a building, shall be made by this Department unless photographs of such building, showing its utterly dilapidated condition, are on file in this office.

It might be interesting to note here that one of the buildings which I have ordered to be demolished is claimed to be the oldest structure in the State of New York, having been erected in the year 1648, in Southampton, Long Island, by Thomas Sayres, one of the original settlers of the Shinnecock section of Long Island.

## 2. THE STORAGE, SALE OR USE OF COMBUSTIBLES OR EXPLOSIVES.

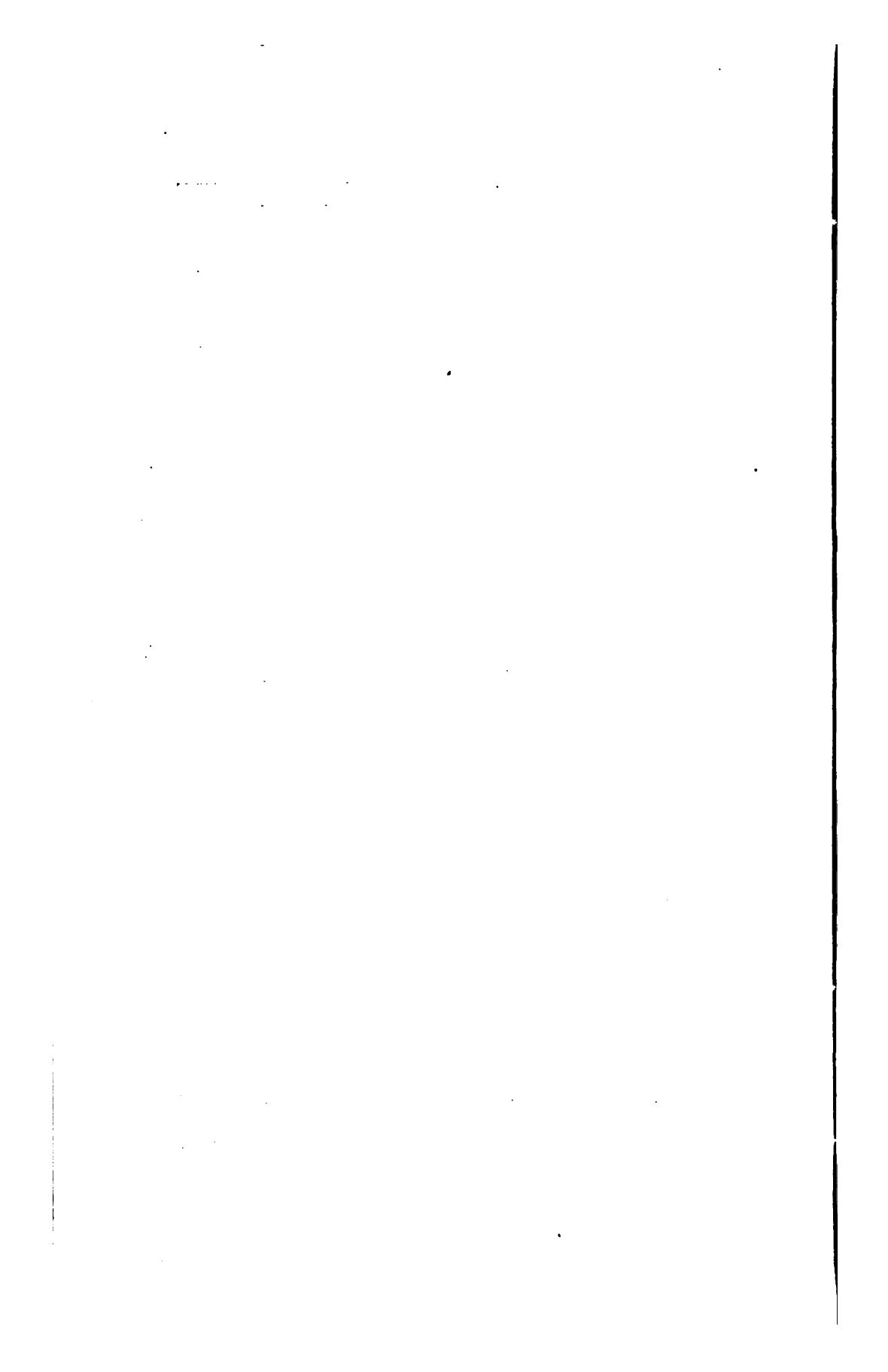
In the absence of any adequate State legislation or of any uniform system of ordinances in the various municipalities, I have been unable to accomplish any considerable results upon this subject except such as may be considered preparatory to work which will have to be performed by this Department should your honorable body enact legislation along the lines which I have indicated in other parts of this report. I have for this purpose caused statements to be filed in this office showing the location of every magazine used for the storage of high explosives within the State as shown on table No. 2; the location of every storage plant used for the storage of volatile inflammable liquids within the State as to be found on table No. 3; and I have also collected considerable data upon the manufacture, storage, transportation and use of inflammable gases under pressure.

One of my deputies, who is thoroughly familiar with the subject, has been authorized by me to attend as often as possible the sittings of the municipal explosives commission of the city of New York and assist that body in compiling and formulating an exhaustive and comprehensive set of regulations which under the law has become a chapter of the ordinances of the city of New York. This Department is now fully equipped to cope with the explosive situation as soon as the Legislature shall grant me the authority to proceed.

On this same subject, as an instance of the reckless way in which explosives are handled in this State, I will cite a case which is now pending in this office. On October 27, 1911, a number of resi-



Dilapidated building on Elizabeth street, Geneseo, N. Y., demolished by order of this department.



dents of the township of Colonie, Albany county, made a complaint to me that a concrete building, intended to be used for the storage of dynamite, was being erected in close proximity to their residences and that they had not been able to ascertain by whom this building was to be used. It required considerable time and trouble for this Department to procure the information that the Pluto Powder Company of Buffalo, New York, had erected the building and by the time the information was obtained they had already stored therein twenty tons of nitro-glycerine. I notified the Pluto Powder Company to appear before me and produce evidence showing the authority by which they had been allowed to store such a large quantity of explosives in said magazine. When the representative of the said company appeared he coolly informed me that he had no official authority whatever for the said storage except that he had a lease of the ground and proposed to exercise his privilege as a lessee by using the premises in any manner he saw fit. He also volunteered the information that all magazines owned by his company throughout the State had been built and were being maintained under similar conditions. I thereupon decided that in this case I was justified to use the discretionary powers vested in me by section 355 of the State Fire Marshal Law and I issued an order requiring the said Pluto Powder Company to forthwith remove all explosives from the said magazine or incur the penalties prescribed in said law unless they obtained the consent of the local authorities, which in this case is the board of supervisors of Albany county. At the time of this writing the application made by the Pluto Powder Company to the said body is pending before its legal adviser, and as soon as the case of this particular magazine is decided I shall take up the matter of the other magazines belonging to all companies manufacturing or dealing in explosives and ascertain their authority for the maintenance of such premises.

### 3. THE INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF AUTOMATIC OR OTHER FIRE-ALARM SYSTEMS AND FOR EXTINGUISHING EQUIPMENT.

As I have stated in a previous part of this report, there are no uniform or even adequate laws, ordinances or regulations on this subject nor is there any legislation authorizing this Department to

formulate and enforce any rules and regulations thereon. I have, therefore, been obliged to confine the activities of this Department to the installation and prescribing the use of fire-alarm systems and fire extinguishing equipment of such public buildings, institutions, prisons, asylums, schools, theatres and such other places of public amusement or assembly as have been inspected by this Department. The number of such inspections made of buildings wherein the installation and maintenance of such appliances have been ordered is to be found on table No. 4.

In this connection I may be allowed to remark that the building occupied by your honorable body and by this Department, namely, the Capitol of the State of New York is sadly lacking in equipment of this nature as evidenced by a report made by me to the Trustees of Public Buildings to which I respectfully beg to call your attention.

#### 4. THE INSPECTION OF STEAM BOILERS.

I have already dilated at length upon this subject and I am presenting for your consideration a report of the inspections made since the law went into effect, as shown by certificates on file in this office; said report is to be found on table No. 5.

The appointment by this Department of competent boiler inspectors to inspect all boilers not insured by their owners is imperative and I have already taken steps to that effect by requesting the State Civil Service Commission to classify the said position and to hold a competitive examination for the same. Said examination was held on January 13th and is the first civil service examination for the position of boiler inspector ever held in this State.

#### 5. THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND REGULATION OF FIRE ESCAPES.

The report and remarks already made under subdivision 3 apply to this subdivision also, and the number of inspections made of buildings where the erection or maintenance or adequate fire escapes have been ordered is to be found on table 4. I can not too strongly urge the earnest attention of your honorable body to my recommendations contained in another part of this report

upon this subject as it is one of the utmost importance to affect the saving of human life in case of a conflagration.

We should not allow ourselves to entertain the fallacious idea that a fireproof building needs no fire escapes. The Triangle Shirtwaist Company's fire and the more recent Equitable Life Insurance Company's building fire in New York city, as well as the fire which destroyed a portion of the Capitol at Albany, are evidences which compel the conclusion that fire escapes are an indispensable necessity upon any building where a large number of persons live, work or congregate, no matter what the nature of the material entering into the construction of such building may be. The contents of fireproof buildings are not and, in the nature of things, never can be fireproof and when the contents of a building burn, death by suffocation or flame is bound to be the fate of the inmates or occupants unless adequate means of escaping therefrom are provided in advance.

We should furthermore always remember that a well-constructed fire escape serves a double purpose, namely, that of enabling the occupants of a building to reach safety in case of fire and that of enabling the firemen to reach the floors upon which the fire is raging whenever the inside stairways by smoke or flame have been made unavailable.

Having this in mind, I have recommended to the Trustees of Public Buildings of the State of New York in a report recently filed with them, to which report I respectfully call attention of your honorable body, that the Capitol Building be equipped with adequate fire-escapes in the inner court, leading from the upper stories to the ground floor, so as to afford a safe means of escape to the large number of employees of the State, mostly women who are compelled to work on the upper floors.

Subdivision 6. The means and adequacy of exit, in case of fire, from factories, asylums, hospitals, churches, schools, halls, theatres, amphitheatres and all other places in which numbers of persons work, live, or congregate from time to time for any purpose.

The table giving the number of inspections and the nature of the changes ordered by this Department to be made in the various buildings inspected by it under this subdivision, is to be found on Table 4. I will only state in connection with this subject that the

imperative necessity of having all doors leading from buildings, described in this subdivision, hung so as to swing outwardly cannot be too strongly brought to the attention of all the citizens of this State.

Too many catastrophes have been caused and too many lives have been lost by the existence of conditions contrary to this principle and each citizen should make it his business to see that this, one of the most important and, at the same time, one of the most inexpensive of fire prevention measures, is adopted throughout the State.

This Department will welcome at any time a complaint made by any person upon this subject which can not but come within the plain observation of all, and, when such complaints are found to be justified, the department will use all the power given to it by law to compel the necessary change.

Subdivision 7. Investigation of the cause, origin or circumstances of fire.

Table 7 contains all the statistics gathered in relation to this subdivision. While it is extremely difficult to obtain a conviction for the crime of arson, which by its very nature is necessarily committed in the absence of witnesses, still the recent agitation requiring a stricter enforcement of the Penal Law on this subject is producing favorable results which can already be noted. This Department has offered the services of its inspectors to assist any local authorities in investigating fires of suspicious origin and while the time has been too short to produce any appreciable results, still I have hopes that in the next annual report I will be able to show a betterment of conditions calculated to discourage and prevent malicious incendiarism.

Besides performing the duties with which I have been charged by the law creating the office of the State Fire Marshal, in line with a tendency to reduce the fire loss I have associated myself and am in active co-operation with the state fire marshals of the various states and territories of the United States and provinces of the Dominion of Canada for the purpose of furthering the advancement of fire prevention and in one instance at the request of the State Fire Marshal of the State of Michigan I have caused some depositions to be taken from witnesses residing within the

State of New York which have been used in the Michigan courts to obtain a conviction of an incendiary.

In order to bring the subject of fire prevention prominently before the public and to popularize a study of the same I have caused the publication of a small pamphlet written in very plain language, which is reproduced at the end of this report. I have distributed three editions of ten thousand each in the various schools and educational institutions of this State and another edition of twenty thousand is now being printed and will be similarly distributed.



**ROSTER OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE STATE  
FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE ON DECEMBER 31, 1911.**

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Thomas J. Ahearn, State Fire Marshal.

Everett Fowler, First Deputy.

Peter P. Acritelli, Second Deputy.

Richard J. Cullen, Secretary of Department.

Patrick J. Gillespie, Chief Engineer.

John F. Hoey, Chief Inspector.

Dennis J. Glennon, Inspector.

Charles L. O'Connor, Inspector.

William Oldfield, Jr., Inspector.

Edward F. Henneberry, Inspector.

Arthur L. Quinn, Inspector.

Herbert M. Hudson, Inspector.

James Kelly, Inspector.

J. Lewis Daly, Inspector.

David Wright, Clerk.

John P. Cox, Cashier.

John J. Daly, Stenographer.

Matilda Lique, Asst. Con. Stenographer.

## FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT.

Appropriations and Expenditures from July 25, 1911, to December 31, 1911.

### APPROPRIATIONS.

#### *Salaries.*

	July 25 to Sept. 30, 1911.	Fiscal year beginning Oct. 1, 1911.	Total.
State Fire Marshal and deputies.....	\$2,500 00	\$15,000 00	\$17,500 00

Salaries of secretary, clerks and assistants, printing, stationery, office supplies, postage, expressage, traveling expenses and other necessary office expenses .....	50,000 00
	\$67,500 00

### DISBURSEMENTS.

#### *Salaries.*

	July 25 to Dec. 31, 1911.
State Fire Marshal and deputies.....	\$5,251 27
Graded employees .....	5,626 98
Printing . . . . .	405 95
Telephone, etc. ....	73 57
Traveling expenses .....	301 66
Equipment (office) . . . . .	414 98
Stationery . . . . .	181 74
Books . . . . .	25 00
Postage . . . . .	212 00
	\$12,493 15

### BALANCES.

#### *Salaries.*

State Fire Marshal and deputies.....	\$12,248 73	
Salaries of secretary, clerks and assistants, print- ing, stationery, office supplies, postage, express- age, traveling expenses, and other necessary office expenses .....	42,758 12	
	55,006 85	
		\$67,500 00



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**PART III.**

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**STATISTICS.**



## PART III.

### STATISTICS.

TABLE No. 1.

DILAPIDATED BUILDINGS ORDERED DEMOLISHED AFTER INSPEC-  
TION FROM OCTOBER 1, 1911 TO DECEMBER 31, 1911.

COUNTY.	Total.	CHARACTER OF BUILDING.		
		Dwelling.	Barn or shed.	Other structure.
Albany.....	14	11	3	.....
Fulton.....	1	.....	.....	1
Livingston.....	2	2	.....	.....
Madison.....	1	1	.....	.....
Oneida.....	2	2	.....	.....
Suffolk.....	4	4	.....	.....
Ulster.....	1	1	.....	.....
Total.....	25	21	3	1

TABLE No. 2.

SHOWING THE STORAGE OF HIGH EXPLOSIVES IN THE STATE OF  
NEW YORK.

LOCATION.	NUMBER OF MAGAZINES FOR THE STORAGE OF.			MAXIMUM POWDER STORED.	
	Dynamite.	Black powder.	Blasting supplies.	Dynamite.	Black powder.
				Lbs.	Lbs.
Amsterdam.....	.....	1	.....	.....	625
Ardsley.....	1	.....	.....	2,000	.....
Boonville.....	1	.....	.....	1,200	.....
Buffalo.....	1	1	1	125,000	25,000
Carthage.....	2	.....	.....	30,000	.....
Creek Locks.....	1	.....	.....	30,000	.....
Crown Point.....	1	.....	1	75,000	.....
Fort Edward.....	2	1	.....	50,800	10,000
Fort Plain.....	2	.....	.....	3,000	.....
Gouverneur.....	1	.....	.....	20,000	.....
Hudson.....	1	.....	.....	500	.....
Little Falls.....	1	.....	.....	2,000	.....
Lockport.....	1	.....	.....	1,000	.....
Malone.....	1	.....	.....	20,000	.....
Mount Vernon.....	1	.....	.....	1,000	.....
Newburgh.....	2	2	.....	90,000	18,800
Niagara Falls.....	1	.....	.....	8,000	.....
Ogdensburg.....	1	.....	.....	8,000	.....
Old Chatham.....	1	.....	.....	1,000	.....
Plattsburg.....	1	1	.....	3,500	3,750
Pelham.....	1	.....	.....	2,000	.....
Port Henry.....	1	.....	.....	500	.....

TABLE No. 2 — (Concluded).

LOCATION.	NUMBER OF MAGAZINES FOR THE STORAGE OF.			MAXIMUM POWDER STORED.	
	Dynamite.	Black powder.	Blasting supplies.	Dynamite.	Black powder.
	Lbs.	Lbs.		Lbs.	Lbs.
Poughkeepsie.....	1			1,000	
Port Jervis.....	1			10,000	
Rochester.....	1			4,000	
Rosendale.....			3		1,250,000
Saranac Lake.....	1			2,000	
Scarsdale.....	1		1	50,000	
Schaghticoke.....	1	8		25,000	280,400
Schenectady.....	1			11,000	
Syracuse.....	1			2,000	
Ticonderoga.....	1			1,000	
Watertown.....	2			16,000	
White Plains.....	1			500	
Whiteport.....	1			50,000	
Yonkers.....	5			10,000	

TABLE No. 3.

SHOWING THE NATURE AND MAXIMUM QUANTITY OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS STORED.

LOCATION.	BARRELS OF 50 GALS.	
	Refined oil.	Naphtha.
Adams.....	506	229
Addison.....	232	
Albany.....	55,403	56,947
Alexandria Bay.....		78
Amityville.....	528	795
Aquebogue.....	396	664
Arcade.....	230	386
Angola.....	230	314
Albion.....	225	389
Akron.....	230	386
Amsterdam.....	940	260
Arkville.....	406	229
Auburn.....	1,319	1,021
Baldwin.....		229

TABLE No. 3 — (Continued).

LOCATION.	BARRELS OF 50 GALS.	
	Refined oil.	Naphtha.
Brewster.....	528	426
Bay Shore.....	207	353
Bridgehampton.....	528	358
Buffalo (Chandler street).....	360	333
Batavia.....	424	225
Bath.....	424	304
Bedford Hill.....	400	250
Belfast.....	307	235
Brockport.....	424	382
Baldwinsville.....	307	.....
Ballston.....	323	323
Binghamton.....	2,028	1,038
Binnewater.....	304	.....
Boonville.....	396	323
Bridgewater.....	424	261
Broadalbin.....	217	.....
Callicoon.....	307	.....
Canandaigua.....	424	304
Cattaraugus.....	307	235
Cambridge.....	229	.....
Camden.....	323	307
Cameron Mills.....	229	.....
Cape Vincent.....	307	.....
Carthage.....	662	529
Catakill.....	424	335
Casenovia.....	429	229
Central Square.....	323	307
Chatham.....	414	229
Cherry Valley.....	229	.....
Cherubusco.....	307	.....
Chester.....	534	229
Cincinnatus.....	229	.....
Clayton.....	240	629
Cobleskill.....	441	307
Cooks Falls.....	155	.....
Cooperstown.....	230	229
Corinth.....	304	323
Corning.....	1,064	588
Cortland.....	1,147	307
Coxsackie.....	307	.....
Dannemora.....	225	.....
Dover Furnace.....	306	.....
Dunkirk.....	424	307
De Kalb Junction.....	229	.....
Delhi.....	229	.....
Deposit.....	229	.....
DeRuyter.....	229	.....
Dundee.....	229	.....
Ellenville.....	307	305
East Aurora.....	230	386



TABLE NO. 3 — (Continued).

LOCATION.	BARRELS OF 50 GALS.	
	Refined oil.	Naphtha.
Elmira.....	1,794	479
Fonda.....	382	.....
Fenhurst.....	895	1,185
Fort Plain.....	707	304
Fulton.....	436	323
Geneva.....	360	352
Greenport.....	396	.....
Glen Cove.....	528	352
Geneseo.....	424	350
Gowanda.....	230	419
Glens Falls.....	1,098	940
Gloversville.....	1,405	1,109
Gouverneur.....	565	151
Grand Gorge.....	307	.....
Granville.....	424	327
Greene.....	229	.....
Green Island.....	2,751	1,147
Greenwich.....	424	323
Greenwood Lake.....	.....	30
Hague.....	.....	62
Huntington.....	229	527
Honeoye Falls.....	230	227
Hornell.....	379	304
Hamilton.....	440	229
Hammond.....	229	.....
Hancock.....	229	.....
Herford Mills.....	229	.....
Haverstraw.....	307	229
Herkimer.....	707	564
Highland.....	307	323
Highland Falls.....	306	.....
Hoosick Falls.....	424	323
Hudson.....	1,823	478
Hunter.....	307	.....
Ithaca.....	864	649
Johnsonville.....	229	.....
Jamestown.....	1,259	950
Keeseville.....	229	.....
Kingston.....	940	835
Lake George.....	.....	225
LeRoy.....	386	228
Lockport.....	425	304
Lyndonville.....	230	386
Lake Placid.....	91	.....
Levenne.....	307	.....
Liberty.....	307	.....
Little Falls.....	707	.....
Livingston Manor.....	307	306
Locke.....	360	.....
Lowville.....	707	323

TABLE NO. 3 — (Continued).

LOCATION.	BARRELS OF 50 GALS.	
	Refined oil.	Naphtha.
Lyons.....	424	424
Malone.....	1,108	304
Matteawan.....	528	307
Mt. Kisco.....	661	307
Millerton.....	229	
Mayville.....	230	225
Macedon.....	424	378
Medina.....	424	225
Marathon.....	229	
Massena Springs.....	229	
Mechanicville.....	307	260
Middletown.....	1,991	645
Monticello.....		227
Moers Junction.....	229	
New Berlin.....	229	117
New Rochelle.....	1,836	940
Niagara Falls.....	424	307
Nunda.....	230	252
Newburgh.....	3,748	3,750
Ninevah Junction.....	229	
No. Lawrence.....	307	
Northville.....	229	
Norwich.....	474	306
Nyack.....	424	255
Ogdensburg.....	1,349	612
Oneida.....	424	307
Oneonta.....	538	229
Oswegatchie.....	307	
Oswego.....	1,301	664
Ovid.....	355	
Owego.....	413	238
Ossining.....	528	418
Penn Yan.....	424	304
Peekskill.....	529	
Port Chester.....	1,181	939
Patchogue.....	528	353
Port Jefferson.....	229	
Prattsburg.....	230	
Philmont.....	323	323
Pine Plains.....	307	
Plattsburg.....	940	758
Port Henry.....	307	
Port Jervis.....	424	304
Potadam.....	1,623	229
Poughkeepsie.....	940	307
Prospect Junction.....	307	
Pulaski.....	323	307
Ravena.....	397	229
Rye.....	528	
Rexville.....	230	

TABLE NO. 3 — (Continued).

LOCATION.	BARRELS OF 50 GALS.	
	Refined oil.	Naphtha.
Randolph.....	230	246
Red Hook.....	424	.....
Rhinebeck.....	.....	304
Richfield Springs.....	307	.....
Riverside.....	307	156
Rome.....	1,845	229
Rouses Point.....	424	306
Salem.....	229	.....
Sherman.....	230	.....
Sinclairville.....	386	.....
Salamanca.....	230	266
Silver Springs.....	424	376
Springville.....	307	235
Saranac Lake.....	414	307
Saratoga.....	836	705
Saugerties.....	304	.....
Schenectady.....	4,847	1,028
Schoharie.....	306	229
Seneca Falls.....	352	.....
Sharon Springs.....	229	.....
Sidney.....	1,589	265
Skaneateles.....	307	.....
So. Fallsburg.....	229	.....
Spencer.....	229	.....
Stanford.....	229	.....
Stephentown.....	225	.....
Suffern.....	414	307
Syracuse.....	8,518	4,229
Theresa.....	229	.....
Tarrytown.....	1,588	940
Tonawanda.....	386	386
Ticonderoga.....	261	229
Troy.....	230	230
Trumansburg.....	229	.....
Tupper Lake Junction.....	230	.....
Tuxedo.....	.....	414
Utica.....	6,239	1,675
Walden.....	630	323
White Plains.....	1606	703
West Hampton.....	207	355
Westfield.....	230	378
Wayland.....	424	390
Wellsville.....	230	.....
Williamson.....	386	350
Wolcott.....	424	228
Walton.....	396	261
Warrensburg.....	235	.....
Warwick.....	230	.....
Watertown.....	1,968	2,179

TABLE No. 3 — (Continued).

LOCATION.	BARRELS OF 50 GALS.	
	Refined oil.	Naphtha.
Watkins.....	376	229
Waverly.....	299	195
Weedsport.....	534	360
Westport.....	304	293
West Shokan.....	307	.....
Whitehall.....	305	229
Whitney Point.....	229	.....
Windsor.....	229	.....
Worcester.....	307	.....
Yonkers.....	4,212	6,640

TABLE No. 3 — (Concluded).

SHOWING THE STATIONS TO WHICH PETROLEUM IS DELIVERED OR  
KEPT IN TANK BARGES FOR MARINE PURPOSES.

LOCATION.	Naphtha, barrels of 50 gals.
Bayville.....	25
Cold Spring Harbor.....	110
Glenwood Landing.....	95
Greenport.....	331
Huntington.....	95
Lloyd's Neck.....	110
Montauk.....	250
Mamaroneck.....	118
New Rochelle.....	94
Oyster Bay.....	95
Port Jefferson.....	130
Port Washington.....	59
Patchogue.....	95
Port Chester.....	94
Tarrytown.....	48
Yonkers.....	20

TABLE No. 4.

SHOWING NUMBER OF FIRE APPLIANCES ORDERED.

LOCALITY.	Fire appliance.	Fire escapes.	Exits.	Fire drills.
Albany.....	5	3	5	1
Albion.....	3	3	3	2
Angelica.....	1	1	1	.....
Buffalo.....	5	3	5	1
Berlin.....	1	1	1	.....
Brockport.....	1	1	1	1
Binghamton.....	1	1	2	.....
Batavia.....	1	.....	1	1
Bedford.....	1	1	1	.....
Burke.....	.....	.....	3	.....
Catakill.....	1	.....	1	.....
Cairo.....	1	.....	1	.....
Central Islip.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Corning.....	1	.....	1	1
Dobbs Ferry.....	1	1	1	.....
Delhi.....	1	1	1	.....
Dannemora.....	1	1	1	.....
Elmsford.....	2	.....	2	.....
Elmira.....	2	.....	.....	.....
Fishkill.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Fairport.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Freeport.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Greenport.....	.....	.....	2	.....
Gilbertsville.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Goshen.....	1	.....	1	.....
Geneseo.....	1	1	1	1
Hornell.....	1	.....	1	.....
Hoosick Falls.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Irondequoit.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Industry.....	1	1	1	.....
Kingston.....	9	9	8	.....
Kings Park.....	1	1	1	.....
Liberty.....	.....	1	1	.....
Lockport.....	1	1	1	1
Lancaster.....	1	7	4	.....
Letchworth Village.....	1	.....	.....	1
Milton.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Medina.....	1	1	1	.....
Mt. Vernon.....	1	1	1	.....
Mechanicville.....	6	5	6	.....
Niagara Falls.....	1	1	1	.....
Napanoch.....	1	.....	1	.....
Newark.....	1	1	1	1
Newburgh.....	30	29	36	.....
Norwood.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Ossining.....	1	1	1	.....
Oneonta.....	3	3	3	.....
Oxford.....	1	1	1	.....
Perryburg.....	1	1	1	.....
Poughkeepsie.....	2	1	1	.....
Penn Yan.....	9	11	9	1
Peekskill.....	2	2	2	1

TABLE No. 4 — (Concluded).

LOCALITY.	Fire appliance.	Fire escapes.	Exits.	Fire drills.
Patchogue.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Preston.....	1	1	1	.....
Plattsburg.....	1	1	1	.....
Phoenix Mills.....	1	1	1	.....
Rochester.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Raybrook.....	1	1	1	.....
Rome.....	2	1	2	.....
Saratoga.....	1	1	1	.....
Syracuse.....	2	1	2	1
Smithtown Branch.....	2	1	6	.....
Southampton.....	.....	.....	1	.....
Troy.....	4	4	3	.....
Utica.....	2	1	2	.....
Viola.....	1	1	1	.....
White Plains.....	1	.....	2	.....
West Haverstraw.....	1	.....	1	.....
Walden.....	7	9	6	.....
Waverly.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Whitehall.....	1	.....	1	.....
Warrensburg.....	1	.....	1	.....
Walton.....	1	.....	1	.....
Total.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

TABLE No. 5.

INSPECTION OF STEAM BOILERS, NUMBER OF BOILERS INSPECTED.

COUNTIES.	Total.	Externally.	Internally.	Requiring repairs.
Albany.....	693	482	211	9
Allegany.....	58	35	83	2
Broome.....	278	177	101	4
Cattaraugus.....	94	63	31	.....
Cayuga.....	145	105	40	6
Chautauqua.....	245	169	76	3
Chemung.....	135	84	51	1
Chenango.....	117	78	39	.....
Clinton.....	42	29	13	5
Columbia.....	165	118	47	7
Cortland.....	94	75	19	3
Delaware.....	121	89	32	3
Dutchess.....	425	316	109	8
Erie.....	1,188	665	523	56

TABLE No. 5 — (Concluded).

COUNTIES.	Total.	Externally.	Internally.	Requiring repairs.
Essex.....	69	48	21	.....
Franklin.....	80	56	24	.....
Fulton.....	146	80	66	1
Genesee.....	121	77	44	1
Greene.....	21	16	5	.....
Hamilton.....	2	2	.....	.....
Herkimer.....	188	113	75	3
Jefferson.....	377	269	108	.....
Lewis.....	32	14	18	.....
Livingston.....	57	38	19	.....
Madison.....	74	44	30	5
Monroe.....	977	678	299	36
Montgomery.....	212	130	82	6
Nassau.....	54	32	22	2
Niagara.....	365	209	156	25
Oneida.....	708	449	259	36
Onondaga.....	575	373	202	20
Ontario.....	76	47	29	.....
Orange.....	342	235	107	8
Orleans.....	25	20	5	.....
Oswego.....	186	120	66	8
Otsego.....	44	28	16	3
Putnam.....	20	18	2	.....
Rensselaer.....	410	270	140	12
Rockland.....	49	28	21	4
St. Lawrence.....	257	178	79	4
Saratoga.....	306	187	119	9
Schenectady.....	201	152	49	8
Schoharie.....	17	8	9	2
Schuyler.....	4	3	1	.....
Seneca.....	79	46	33	.....
Steuben.....	115	68	47	.....
Suffolk.....	131	73	58	3
Sullivan.....	9	7	2	.....
Tioga.....	41	23	18	.....
Tompkins.....	43	28	15	.....
Ulster.....	367	223	144	10
Warren.....	84	52	32	2
Washington.....	132	91	41	6
Wayne.....	112	74	38	6
Westchester.....	954	479	475	24
Wyoming.....	44	27	17	4
Yates.....	74	57	17	.....
Total.....	11,980	7,655	4,325	355

TABLE No. 6.

SHOWING PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND INSTITUTIONS INSPECTED.

LOCALITY.	Institution or building.
Albany.....	State Conservation Building. State Capitol. City Hall. County Penitentiary. City Building County Almshouse and Hospital.
Albion.....	Western House of Refuge for Women.
Albion.....	County Almshouse and Hospital.
Albion.....	High School.
Angelica.....	County Almshouse.
Buffalo.....	Providence Retreat.
Buffalo.....	State Hospital for the Insane.
Buffalo.....	State Normal School.
Buffalo.....	State Armories (2).
Bedford Hills.....	State Reformatory for Women.
Batavia.....	State Institution for the Blind.
Binghamton.....	State Hospital for the Insane.
Binghamton.....	State Armory.
Brockport.....	State Normal School.
Central Islip.....	State Hospital for the Insane.
Catskill.....	State Armory.
Cairo.....	County Almshouse.
Dannemora.....	State Prison.
Delhi.....	County Almshouse.
Elmsford.....	County Almshouse and Hospital.
Elmira.....	State Reformatory.
Elmira.....	State Armory.
Fairport.....	Town Hall.
Fishkill.....	State Criminal Insane Asylum.
Geneseo.....	State Normal School.
Goshen.....	County Almshouse.
Hudson.....	State Training School for Girls.
Hoosick Falls.....	State Armory.
Hornell.....	State Armory.
Industry.....	State Agricultural and Industrial School.
Kings Park.....	State Hospital for the Insane.
Kingston.....	State Armory.
Kingston.....	City Almshouse.
Lancaster.....	Town Hall.
Letchworth Village.....	State Institute for Feeble-Minded.
Lockport.....	County Almshouse.
Medina.....	State Armory.
Milton.....	Home for Poor.
Newburgh.....	State Armory.
Newark.....	State Custodial Asylum.
Napanoch.....	State Reformatory.
Niagara Falls.....	State Armory.
Oneonta.....	State Armory.
Oneonta.....	State Normal School.
Oxford.....	State Woman's Relief Corps.
Ossining.....	State Prison.
Poughkeepsie.....	State Hudson River Hospital.
Poughkeepsie.....	State Armory.
Plattsburg.....	State Normal School.
Preston.....	County Almshouse.



TABLE No. 6 — (Concluded).

LOCALITY.	Institution or building.
Phoenixville.....	County Almshouse.
Perrysburg.....	City Memorial Hospital
Peekskill.....	Military Academy.
Rome.....	Home for Poor.
Rome.....	State Institute for Deaf-Mutes.
Rochester.....	State Armory.
Raybrook.....	Sanitarium.
Syracuse.....	State Institute for Feeble-Minded Children.
Syracuse.....	State Armory.
Saratoga.....	State Armory.
Troy.....	St. Joseph's Home.
Troy.....	County Hospital.
Troy.....	State Hospital.
Utica.....	State Armory.
Viola.....	County Almshouse.
Walton.....	State Armory.
Warrensburg.....	Home for Poor.
Whitehall.....	State Armory.
White Plains.....	State Bloomingdale Hospital.
West Haverstraw.....	State Hospital.

TABLE No. 7.

SHOWING PROCEEDINGS IN ARSON CASES IN THE VARIOUS  
COUNTIES OF THE STATE FROM SEPTEMBER 1ST TO DECEMBER  
31, 1911.

COUNTY.	Number of arrests.	Number of convictions.	Cases pending.	Sentenced.
Albany.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Chemung.....	1	.....	1	.....
Clinton.....	1	.....	1	.....
Delaware.....	1	1	.....	1
Dutchess.....	2	1	1	1
Erie.....	1	.....	1	.....
Kings.....	7	1	5	1
Livingston.....	1	1	.....	1
Monroe.....	2	2	1	1
Montgomery.....	1	1	1	.....
Nassau.....	1	.....	1	.....
New York.....	10	1	6	1
Oneida.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Onondaga.....	1	1	.....	.....
Queens.....	3	.....	3	.....
Rensselaer.....	4	.....	4	.....
Warren.....	1	.....	.....	.....
Wayne.....	2	.....	2	.....
Westchester.....	6	1	5	1
Total.....	47	10	32	7

TABLE No. 8.

SHOWING NUMBER OF FIRES AND FIRE LOSSES DURING THE  
MONTHS OF OCTOBER, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER, 1911.

COUNTY.	Number of fires.	ESTIMATED DAMAGE.		AMOUNT OF INSURANCE.		AMOUNT OF SETTLEMENT.	
		Build- ing.	Con- tents.	Build- ing.	Con- tents.	Build- ing.	Con- tents.
ALBANY.							
October.....	48	\$13,327	\$26,512	\$43,950	\$52,400	\$13,097	\$24,948
November.....	60	66,401	61,318	134,837	90,890	18,981	40,332
December.....	74	6,243	11,073	253,665	103,225	6,618	7,890
Total.....	182	\$85,971	\$98,903	\$432,452	\$246,515	\$38,696	\$73,170
ALLEGANY.							
October.....	3	\$300	\$150	\$6,000	\$4,250	\$300	\$150
November.....	4	1,050	27,575	4,500	300	1,650	300
December.....	4	2,900	850	14,100	2,200	2,900	1,602
Total.....	11	\$4,250	\$28,575	\$24,600	\$6,750	\$4,850	\$1,952
BROOME.							
October.....	1	\$25		\$2,000			
November.....	6	1,353	\$1,109	9,650	\$5,850	\$1,353	\$455
December.....	6	3,354	2,166	8,240	5,073	3,354	2,166
Total.....	13	\$4,732	\$3,732	\$19,890	\$10,923	\$4,707	\$2,621
CATTARAUGUS.							
October.....	11	\$53,250	\$127,000	\$38,500	\$113,275	\$38,010	\$110,987
November.....	4	1,515	1,200	2,400	2,000	1,350	1,200
December.....	9	1,087	1,399	6,700	5,800	531	599
Total.....	24	\$55,852	\$129,599	\$47,600	\$121,075	\$39,891	\$112,786
CAYUGA.							
October.....	7	\$2,253	\$855	\$13,700	\$4,500	\$1,943	65
November.....	5	750	175	14,950	500	400	150
December.....	3	1,700	775	2,200	700	1,700	700
Total.....	15	\$4,703	\$1,805	\$30,850	\$5,700	\$4,043	\$915
CHAUTAUQUA.							
October.....	18	\$14,189	\$21,525	\$183,100	\$166,350	\$18,419	\$12,812
November.....	19	28,319	18,482	85,250	47,075	25,919	16,292
December.....	10	6,039	265	28,150	23,300	5,939	215
Total.....	47	\$48,547	\$40,272	\$296,500	\$236,725	\$50,277	\$29,319
CHEMUNG.							
October.....	12	\$5,569	\$696	\$37,250	\$5,700	\$5,317	\$103
November.....	16	7,361	5,829	36,900	16,650	5,783	4,751
December.....	21	5,492	3,964	88,300	8,675	3,992	3,214
Total.....	49	\$18,422	\$10,489	\$162,450	\$31,025	\$15,092	\$8,068
CHENANGO.							
October.....	4	\$3,320	\$2,330	\$7,800	\$7,000	\$3,306	\$630
November.....	5	2,066	7,852	6,383	16,756	1,566	7,812
December.....	1	15					
Total.....	10	\$5,401	\$10,182	\$14,183	\$23,756	\$4,872	\$8,442
CLINTON.							
October.....	3	\$512	\$2,500				
November.....	5	15,150	578	\$10,545	\$300	\$7,150	
December.....	10	581	711	32,600	6,800	581	\$611
Total.....	18	\$16,243	\$3,789	\$43,145	\$7,100	\$7,731	\$611

TABLE No. 8 — (Continued).

COUNTY.	Number of fires.	ESTIMATED DAMAGE.		AMOUNT OF INSURANCE.		AMOUNT OF SETTLEMENT.	
		Build- ing.	Con- tents.	Build- ing.	Con- tents.	Build- ing.	Con- tents.
COLUMBIA.							
October.....	5	\$40,525	\$3,475	\$10,725	\$2,675	\$10,325	\$1,575
November.....	7	8,950	5,050	8,550	5,150	7,348	4,650
December.....	3	2,000	6,500	2,000	4,500	2,000	4,500
Total.....	15	\$51,475	\$15,025	\$21,275	\$12,325	\$19,673	\$10,725
DELAWARE.							
October.....	3	\$905	\$400	\$550	\$500	\$400	\$100
November.....	5	4,220	7,453	6,550	1,150	3,620	4,823
December.....	4	160	85	1,700	300	145	85
Total.....	12	\$5,285	\$7,938	\$8,800	\$1,950	\$4,165	\$5,008
DUTCHESS.							
October.....	8	\$1,955	\$2,020	\$23,100	\$11,100	\$1,900	\$1,910
November.....	11	5,903	5,710	11,100	9,125	5,800	5,061
December.....	7	466	317	18,800	16,750	466	317
Total.....	26	\$8,324	\$8,047	\$53,000	\$36,975	\$8,166	\$7,288
ERIE.							
October.....	84	\$27,247	\$43,063	\$549,100	\$343,200	\$25,424	\$41,072
November.....	87	36,609	59,230	585,383	468,300	36,879	57,704
December.....	84	33,431	59,179	328,000	199,300	31,426	59,128
Total.....	255	\$97,287	\$161,472	\$1,462,483	\$1,010,800	\$93,729	\$157,904
ESSEX.							
October.....	6	\$17,950	\$3,330	\$5,150	\$3,300	\$4,725	\$2,565
November.....	3	4,800	2,100	4,100	1,700	4,100	1,700
December.....	2	1,300	1,300	1,000	.....	300	.....
Total.....	11	\$24,050	\$6,730	\$10,250	\$5,000	\$9,125	\$4,265
FRANKLIN.							
October.....	6	\$3,060	\$3,985	\$15,300	\$48,750	\$2,445	\$3,500
November.....	2	3,200	1,300	2,100	700	2,100	700
December.....	2	50	50	3,000	500	50	50
Total.....	10	\$6,310	\$5,335	\$20,400	\$49,950	\$4,590	\$4,250
FULTON.							
October.....	8	\$6,955	\$26,055	\$36,600	\$41,600	\$5,393	\$3,940
November.....	8	1,516	2,030	10,300	4,475	1,388	1,586
December.....	6	349	365	5,200	1,000	249	170
Total.....	22	\$8,820	\$28,450	\$52,100	\$47,075	\$7,030	\$5,696
GENESEE.							
October.....	6	\$2,074	\$1,192	\$4,200	\$3,300	\$2,064	\$1,182
November.....	7	7,779	1,909	10,200	3,375	6,259	1,899
December.....	5	210	217	10,000	2,200	210	192
Total.....	18	\$10,063	\$3,318	\$24,400	\$7,875	\$8,533	\$3,273
GREENE.							
October.....	4	\$3,425	\$2,425	\$2,950	\$1,150	\$2,175	\$650
November.....	3	3,350	1,675	2,800	2,400	2,800	1,400
December.....	6	7,129	2,200	3,800	10,400	1,320	1,910
Total.....	13	\$13,895	\$6,300	\$9,550	\$13,950	\$6,295	\$3,960
HERKIMER.							
October.....	4	\$923	\$658	\$110,250	\$8,500	\$918	\$648
November.....	10	5,227	5,087	19,900	19,400	5,167	5,050
December.....	6	987	1,503	11,700	4,200	957	1,278
Total.....	20	\$7,137	\$7,248	\$141,850	\$32,100	\$7,042	\$6,976

TABLE No. 8 — (Continued).

COUNTY.	Number of fires.	ESTIMATED DAMAGE.		AMOUNT OF INSURANCE.		AMOUNT OF SETTLEMENT.	
		Build- ing.	Con- tents.	Build- ing.	Con- tents.	Build- ing.	Con- tents.
JEFFERSON.							
October .....	14	\$7,154	\$3,249	\$21,600	\$4,750	\$4,135	\$2,284
November .....	18	21,800	9,450	46,775	20,850	21,924	5,800
December .....	11	4,183	5,916	150,450	7,100	3,911	5,061
Total .....	43	\$33,137	\$18,615	\$218,825	\$32,700	\$29,970	\$13,135
LEWIS.							
October .....	5	\$530	\$349	\$4,300	\$1,800	\$30	\$49
November .....	3	2,625	1,200	1,300	500	1,300	500
December .....	2	758	982	7,000	11,900	758	982
Total .....	10	\$3,913	\$2,531	\$12,600	\$14,200	\$2,088	\$1,531
LIVINGSTON.							
October .....	1	\$800	\$1,146	\$500	\$600	\$500	\$600
November .....	8	3,487	1,265	4,275	1,250	3,462	1,250
December .....	2	1,800	1,760	1,750	800	1,750	800
Total .....	11	\$6,087	\$4,171	\$6,525	\$2,650	\$5,712	\$2,650
MADISON.							
October .....	5	\$2,848	\$1,605	\$8,900	\$3,500	\$848	\$755
November .....	3	1,015	582	2,700	11,000	515	532
December .....							
Total .....	8	\$3,863	\$2,187	\$11,600	\$14,500	\$1,363	\$1,287
MONROE.							
October .....	35	\$18,695	\$7,695	\$295,100	\$68,250	\$14,727	\$4,980
November .....	51	6,300	7,326	458,600	467,500	5,159	6,972
December .....	41	11,194	9,080	282,350	184,950	9,140	6,160
Total .....	127	\$36,189	\$24,101	\$1,036,050	\$720,700	\$29,026	\$18,112
MONTGOMERY.							
October .....	5	\$4,957	\$4,585	\$31,900	\$18,800	\$2,857	\$4,585
November .....	10	9,838	92,015	22,300	107,600	11,004	90,662
December .....	11	11,736	6,473	30,200	9,500	7,086	4,761
Total .....	26	\$26,531	\$103,073	\$84,400	\$135,900	\$20,947	\$100,008
NASSAU.							
October .....	10	\$98,020	\$34,562	\$107,050	\$37,300	\$92,843	\$33,896
November .....	6	5,320	7,015	25,000	12,000	3,520	5,215
December .....	3	1,875	3,400	32,800	3,000	1,875	1,900
Total .....	19	\$105,215	\$44,977	\$164,850	\$52,300	\$97,238	\$41,011
NIAGARA.							
October .....	4	\$5,550	\$3,628	\$6,500	\$2,000	\$4,440	\$2,128
November .....	4	4,035	11,500	4,800	4,350	2,025	4,350
December .....	5	742	1,210	3,400	2,300	742	1,210
Total .....	13	\$10,327	\$16,338	\$14,700	\$8,650	\$7,207	\$7,688
ONEIDA.							
October .....	27	\$10,362	\$3,575	\$48,950	\$19,350	\$8,812	\$3,192
November .....	27	11,951	7,589	574,164	30,725	8,916	6,954
December .....	32	8,073	9,605	50,400	88,200	6,323	8,755
Total .....	86	\$30,386	\$20,778	\$773,514	\$137,275	\$24,051	\$18,901
ONONDAGA.							
October .....	21	\$16,181	\$11,633	\$64,300	\$16,800	\$16,071	\$4,008
November .....	42	11,447	11,447	76,750	47,700	8,453	10,288
December .....	34	14,376	43,760	127,550	147,825	32,939	41,653
Total .....	97	\$42,004	\$67,840	\$268,600	\$212,325	\$57,453	\$55,929

TABLE No. 8 — (Continued).

COUNTY.	Number of fires.	ESTIMATED DAMAGE.		AMOUNT OF INSURANCE.		AMOUNT OF SETTLEMENT.	
		Build- ing.	Con- tents.	Build- ing.	Con- tents.	Build- ing.	Con- tents.
ONTARIO.							
October.....	9	\$14,622	\$3,831	\$44,300	\$16,500	\$8,403	\$2,325
November.....	3	1,650	4,675	4,400	800	1,586	600
December.....	6	1,230	1,860	20,450	14,100	1,380	910
Total.....	18	\$17,602	\$10,366	\$69,150	\$31,400	\$11,369	\$3,835
ORANGE.							
October.....	10	\$14,880	\$18,708	\$11,100	\$7,200	\$8,515	\$5,925
November.....	11	3,549	3,656	4,800	3,000	3,093	1,851
December.....	8	1,021	351	5,075	1,635	621	156
Total.....	29	\$19,450	\$22,715	\$20,975	\$11,835	\$12,219	\$7,932
ORLEANS.							
October.....	4	\$2,775	\$475	\$5,550	\$1,650	\$2,100	\$70
November.....	4	19,194	23,720	430,850	19,347	11,810	11,810
December.....	4	4,150	14,250	4,750	7,500	3,750	6,850
Total.....	12	\$26,119	\$38,445	\$450,150	\$28,497	\$17,660	\$18,730
OSWEGO.							
October.....	11	\$16,022	\$5,732	\$89,650	\$32,400	\$15,463	882
November.....	12	2,239	2,255	82,995	17,100	1,539	1,465
December.....	9	8,557	3,255	13,600	5,000	8,552	3,055
Total.....	32	\$26,818	\$11,242	\$186,245	\$54,500	\$25,554	\$5,302
OTSEGO.							
October.....	4	\$2,630	\$1,000	\$12,600	\$10,600	\$1,330	\$600
November.....	3	1,363	205	28,500	4,000	1,363	205
December.....	3	1,550	1,150	98,150	5,150	1,550	1,550
Total.....	10	\$5,543	\$2,355	\$140,250	\$19,750	\$4,243	\$1,955
PUTNAM.							
October.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
November.....	2	\$50	.....	\$1,900	.....	\$50	.....
December.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	2	\$50	.....	\$1,900	.....	\$50	.....
RENSSELAER.							
October.....	14	\$7,391	\$33,735	\$29,600	\$42,700	\$6,570	\$33,556
November.....	16	6,470	15,370	23,500	21,600	6,198	13,945
December.....	27	15,498	31,877	49,459	32,475	13,496	25,087
Total.....	57	\$29,359	\$80,982	\$102,550	\$96,675	\$26,264	\$72,588
ROCKLAND.							
October.....	4	\$4,575	\$1,300	\$17,300	\$2,550	\$4,637	\$1,350
November.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
December.....	3	913	10	2,800	150	913	10
Total.....	7	\$5,488	\$1,310	\$20,100	\$2,700	\$5,650	\$1,360
St. Lawrence.							
October.....	8	\$3,600	\$775	\$10,900	\$2,200	\$2,850	\$400
November.....	7	1,048	267	3,150	3,950	1,200	767
December.....	11	2,474	1,944	17,100	7,200	2,174	1,884
Total.....	26	\$7,122	\$2,986	\$31,150	\$13,350	\$6,224	\$2,751
SARATOGA.							
October.....	15	\$12,453	\$8,950	\$16,650	\$8,250	\$8,200	\$4,873
November.....	11	8,925	4,477	63,600	12,100	8,900	7,237
December.....	12	22,525	22,798	37,100	9,500	20,655	5,376
Total.....	38	\$43,903	\$36,225	\$117,350	\$29,850	\$37,755	\$17,485

TABLE No. 8 — (Continued).

COUNTY.	Number of fires.	ESTIMATED DAMAGE.		AMOUNT OF INSURANCE.		AMOUNT OF SETTLEMENT.	
		Build- ing.	Con- tents.	Build- ing.	Con- tents.	Build- ing.	Con- tents.
SCHENECTADY.							
October.....	19	\$4,092	\$3,165	\$27,050	\$11,800	\$4,092	\$3,165
November.....	15	4,268	2,871	86,870	16,450	4,268	3,546
December.....	15	2,766	3,546	92,000	17,850	2,616	3,287
Total.....	49	\$11,126	\$9,582	\$205,920	\$46,100	\$11,001	\$9,998
SCHOHARIE.							
October.....	1	\$2,000	\$1,800	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$1,800	\$500
November.....	1	10	5				
December.....	1	1,100	1,000	1,100	500	1,000	800
Total.....	3	\$3,110	\$2,805	\$3,100	\$1,500	\$2,800	\$1,000
SCHUYLER.							
October.....							
November.....	3	\$366	\$528	\$3,700	\$3,600	\$364	\$500
December.....	3	503	130	1,200	400	103	5
Total.....	6	\$869	\$658	\$4,900	\$4,000	\$467	\$505
SENECA.							
October.....	1	\$50		\$650		\$50	
November.....	2	1,055	\$16	1,900	\$450	755	\$16
December.....	3	160		500		50	
Total.....	6	\$1,265	\$16	\$3,050	\$450	\$855	\$16
STEUBEN.							
October.....	22	\$6,965	\$4,317	\$61,550	\$65,200	\$4,154	\$2,817
November.....	32	16,636	10,149	40,050	30,250	10,505	6,446
December.....	6	1,268	1,466	5,500	4,250	1,268	1,466
Total.....	60	\$24,869	\$15,932	\$107,100	\$99,700	\$16,027	\$10,729
SUFFOLK.							
October.....	6	\$3,675	\$350	\$46,000	\$6,500	\$3,350	\$300
November.....	12	61,375	49,183	48,600	52,900	45,400	50,900
December.....	9	9,135	5,075	17,900	3,900	7,625	3,425
Total.....	27	\$74,185	\$55,108	\$112,500	\$63,300	\$56,375	\$55,125
SULLIVAN.							
October.....	1	\$3,500	\$1,000	\$5,500	\$2,200	\$3,500	\$1,000
November.....	3	11,000	3,500	4,500	2,000	4,000	1,620
December.....	3	6,850	913	6,200	1,000	6,800	718
Total.....	7	\$21,350	\$5,413	\$16,200	\$5,200	\$13,800	\$3,338
TIOGA.							
October.....	4	\$10,776	\$1,200	\$10,200	\$2,000	\$6,376	\$1,500
November.....	3	1,450	900	1,500	800	1,250	850
December.....	4	800	845	5,450	10,250	650	586
Total.....	11	\$13,026	\$2,945	\$17,150	\$13,250	\$8,276	\$2,936
TOMPKINS.							
October.....	5	\$1,427		\$2,650		\$1,405	
November.....	7	1,257	\$2,121	2,500	\$2,500	1,247	\$1,961
December.....	6	4,845	2,357	5,990	1,640	4,545	707
Total.....	18	\$7,529	\$4,478	\$11,140	\$4,140	\$7,197	\$2,668
ULSTER.							
October.....	6	\$1,392	\$2,531	\$21,200	\$19,550	\$3,122	\$1,001
November.....	5	2,163	624	5,800	900	2,138	576
December.....	17	7,257	8,763	24,400	27,200	6,872	8,348
Total.....	28	\$10,812	\$11,918	\$51,400	\$47,650	\$12,132	\$9,935

TABLE No. 8 — (Concluded).

COUNTY.	Number of fires.	ESTIMATED DAMAGE.		AMOUNT OF INSURANCE.		AMOUNT OF SETTLEMENT.	
		Build- ing.	Con- tents.	Build- ing.	Con- tents.	Build- ing.	Con- tents.
WARREN.							
October.....	3	\$406	\$3	\$3,000	\$6,300	\$406	\$3
November.....	7	52,835	4,349	44,900	9,300	11,835	3,519
December.....	2	1,601	1,500	3,000	1,000	1,101	500
Total.....	12	\$54,842	\$5,852	\$50,900	\$16,600	\$13,342	\$4,022
WASHINGTON.							
October.....	4	\$1,000	\$1,446	\$1,500	\$300	\$804	\$286
November.....	6	5,680	2,360	5,800	2,200	4,131	1,699
December.....	5	3,315	3,600	1,600	850	1,400	850
Total.....	15	\$9,995	\$7,406	\$8,900	\$3,350	\$6,335	\$2,835
WAYNE.							
October.....	7	\$1,977	\$3,992	\$10,100	\$4,750	\$4,147	\$1,492
November.....	5	1,865	11,312	9,400	13,400	865	11,227
December.....	2	2,300	516	1,000	800	690	516
Total.....	14	\$6,142	\$15,812	\$20,500	\$18,950	\$5,692	\$13,235
WESTCHESTER.							
October.....	37	\$13,172	\$5,100	\$175,200	\$19,050	\$10,690	\$3,200
November.....	42	173,608	60,222	246,300	110,500	152,158	55,965
December.....	38	26,478	10,962	169,400	36,850	25,653	8,927
Total.....	117	\$213,258	\$76,284	\$590,900	\$166,400	\$188,501	\$68,191
WYOMING.							
October.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
November.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
December.....	1	\$25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	1	\$25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
YATES.							
October.....	3	\$2,600	\$1,150	\$2,800	\$1,700	\$1,900	\$500
November.....	3	1,690	1,024	12,900	29,600	1,090	1,560
December.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total.....	6	\$4,290	\$2,174	\$15,700	\$31,300	\$2,990	\$2,060

TABLE No. 9.

SHOWING NUMBER OF FIRES AND FIRE LOSSES IN THE FOUR COUNTIES OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK FOR THE MONTHS OF OCTOBER, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER, 1911.

COUNTY.	Number fires.	ESTIMATED DAMAGE.		AMOUNT OF INSURANCE.	
		Building.	Contents.	Building.	Contents.
KINGS.					
October.....	265	\$34,525	\$90,220	\$2,262,700	\$714,700
November.....	345	35,860	43,210	2,202,910	516,200
December.....	350	267,845	407,110	2,982,050	2,665,550
Total.....	960	\$338,230	\$540,540	\$7,447,660	\$3,886,450
NEW YORK.					
October.....	658	\$144,015	\$212,284	\$15,799,500	\$3,705,600
November.....	917	83,675	288,065	14,695,500	3,654,800
December.....	847	192,645	453,153	16,361,540	1,136,950
Total.....	2,422	\$420,335	\$953,492	\$46,856,540	\$8,496,350
QUEENS.					
October.....	41	\$10,520	\$7,890	\$157,500	\$65,350
November.....	50	9,465	4,015	145,100	58,750
December.....	50	29,235	7,665	173,100	48,400
Total.....	141	\$49,220	\$19,570	\$475,700	\$172,500
RICHMOND.					
October.....	.....	\$2,805	\$1,950	\$67,500	\$4,500
November.....	.....	2,005	1,035	60,400	7,000
December.....	.....	2,485	2,780	55,300	11,700
Total.....	.....	\$7,295	\$5,765	\$183,200	\$23,200

The amount of loss paid on settlement is not available in the statistics compiled by the fire department of the city of New York.

TABLE No. 10.

SHOWING THE CAUSES OF FIRES REPORTED TO THE OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL DURING THE MONTHS OF OCTOBER, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER, 1911.

Ashes — hot .....	30
Chimney fires — overheated or defective.....	165
Children and matches .....	65
Careless smokers .....	69
Christmas tree fires.....	7
Defective gas fixtures.....	68
Defective or overheated gas stoves.....	62
Defective fire places .....	29
Electric lights — defective insulation.....	65
Fireworks .....	2
Friction or sparks from machinery.....	2
Gasoline — explosion or careless use of same.....	65



TABLE No. 10 — (*Concluded*).

Gas — explosion or careless use of same.....	23
Gas stoves — explosion or overturned.....	17
Incendiary or suspicious .....	58
Lamps, lanterns or candles — explosion or overturned..	107
Careless use of matches .....	115
Moving picture machines .....	2
Not fully ascertained or unknown.....	517
Rats and matches .....	12
Sparks from locomotives .....	32
Sparks from chimneys.....	30
Stoves, furnace or steam pipes — overheated or defective .....	5
Stove, kerosene, gasoline, etc.— explosion or upsetting.	27
Stoves and ranges — overheated .....	157
Spontaneous combustion .....	37
Total . . . . .	<u><u>1,822</u></u>

TABLE No. 11.

## CLASSIFICATION OF FIRES AS TO STRUCTURES.

Automobile fires .....	27
Barns . . . . .	184
Churches . . . . .	12
Dwellings . . . . .	948
Factories and mills.....	85
Garages .....	26
Hospitals .....	5
Hotels . . . . .	47
Schools .....	11
Sheds . . . . .	29
Shops .....	49
Stores and dwellings combined.....	137
Stores and offices combined.....	150
Theatres and halls .....	12
Miscellaneous . . . . .	100
Total . . . . .	<u><u>1,822</u></u>

## RECAPITULATION TABLE No. 1.

FIRES AND FIRE LOSSES IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK EXCLUSIVE  
OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK DURING THE MONTHS OF OCTOBER,  
NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER, COMPILED FROM OFFICIAL SOURCES  
— VIZ., REPORT MADE BY ASSISTANT STATE FIRE MARSHALS.

*Total number of fires, 1,822.*

Estimated damage on build- ings . . . . .	\$1,412,566 00	
Estimated damage on con- tents . . . . .	1,303,382 00	
	<hr/>	\$2,715,948 00
Amount of loss paid on buildings . . . . .	\$1,106,340 00	
Amount of loss paid on con- tents . . . . .	1,025,987 00	
	<hr/>	2,132,327 00
Amount of insurance carried on buildings damaged by fire . . . . .	\$7,826,622 00	
Amount of insurance carried on contents damaged by fire . . . . .	4,049,216 00	
	<hr/>	11,875,838 00
		<hr/>

The amount paid for fire losses during the three months above mentioned represents 77 per cent. of the damages as estimated by the owner and 18 per cent. of the total amount of insurance carried.

## RECAPITULATION TABLE No. 2.

FIRES AND FIRE LOSSES IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK EXCLUSIVE OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK DURING THE MONTHS OF OCTOBER, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER, COMPILED FROM OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL SOURCES — VIZ., REPORTS MADE BY ASSISTANT STATE FIRE MARSHALS AND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANIES.

	Number of fires.	Damage.
Total number of fires reported by Assistant State Fire Marshals.....	1,822	\$2,715,948 00
Total number of fires reported by fire insurance companies where no fire department had been called.....	1,179	168,809 00
	<hr/> 3,001	<hr/> \$2,884,757 00
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Average loss caused by each fire \$961.26.

## RECAPITULATION TABLE No. 3.

FIRES AND FIRE LOSSES IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK, INCLUDING THE CITY OF NEW YORK FOR THE MONTHS OF OCTOBER, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER, 1911.

	Number of fires.	Damage.
State of New York, estimated damage caused by fire .....	3,001	\$2,884,757 00
City of New York, estimated damage caused by fire .....	3,589	2,334,447 00
	<hr/> 6,590	<hr/> \$5,219,204 00
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Average loss caused by each fire, \$791.90.

Note.—No reports have been received in this office of any fires in two counties of the State of New York, viz., Cortland and Hamilton.

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**IMPORTANT SUGGESTIONS FOR FIRE  
PREVENTION.**

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**THOMAS J. AHEARN  
STATE FIRE MARSHAL  
ALBANY, N. Y.**



## Important Suggestions for Fire Prevention.

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The State Fire Marshal calls the attention of the public to the little careless things that cause many fires, destroy many homes and cost many precious lives.

It is the duty of every citizen to make an effort to minimize this evil as much as possible, and for that purpose a careful perusal of the following suggestions and a general compliance with the same in a spirit of sincere co-operation is earnestly recommended.

THOMAS J. AHEARN,  
*State Fire Marshal.*

Albany, N. Y., January 2, 1912.

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## NEVER!

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1. Never put your trust in a fireproof building — remember that the contents are not fireproof.
2. Never insure your property for more than its value.
3. Never permit a stove to be set up without a metal protection being placed on the floor under the stove.
4. Never permit a stove pipe to come in contact with a partition — see to it that there is an open space around it.
5. Never allow swinging lamps or gas brackets near a window.
6. Never use paper shades or paper or cotton decorations on your lamps.
7. Never use cotton or other flimsy material for decorations either in store windows or on Christmas trees.
8. Never allow children to light candles on Christmas trees.
9. Never throw hot ashes in a wooden barrel or in alleys or on the street nor permit them to be piled up against buildings or fences.

10. Never start a bonfire near a building.
11. Never permit a child to start a bonfire or go near it.
12. Never permit rubbish, greasy rags, paper and useless waste to accumulate in and around buildings.
13. Never put kindling wood in the oven.
14. Never hang clothing near the stove or stove pipe.
15. Never smoke in bed.
16. Never throw a lighted cigar, cigarette or ashes from your pipe in a place where it might start a fire.
17. Never light a match unless you want to start a fire for something that is needed.
18. Never leave matches around where children can reach them.
19. Never permit children under ten years of age to handle matches.
20. Never light a match in a closet or attic where clothes are kept — the head of the match may fly off and set the clothing on fire.
21. Never use any kind of a match except a safety match.
22. Never permit gasoline, benzine or naphtha to be kept in the house.
23. Never permit gasoline, benzine or naphtha to be kept in anything but an airtight metal can, painted red.
24. Never allow anyone to wash clothes or other articles in gasoline, benzine or naphtha in the house.
25. Never throw gasoline, benzine or naphtha into a sink, cesspool or sewer.
26. Never start a fire with kerosene oil, benzine or naphtha.
27. Never fill a lamp or gasoline stove when it is lighted.
28. Never throw water on flames which start from kerosene oil, as it tends to spread the blaze. Smother the flames with a rug, quilt or heavy clothing.
29. Never clean beds with highly inflammable liquids.
30. Never polish a stove while there is any fire in it.
31. Never leave a lamp burning when you leave the house.
32. Never leave a lamp with the light turned down low — it is liable to cause an explosion.
33. Never celebrate the Fourth of July by shooting toy pistols, firecrackers, Roman candles, skyrocketes and other dangerous explosives.

